

COMMENT OF THE DAY

Unqualified

It was to be expected that Communist propaganda would attempt to persuade the world that the Big Four agreement to arrange a Geneva conference to pursue the problem of Korea, and probably that of Indo-China, implied recognition of the Peking regime by the Western Powers. Mr. Anthony Eden, however, has put the record straight by his statements in the House of Commons yesterday. Communist China will not attend the Geneva conference with any special status. It is not a Big Five meeting such as Mr. Molotov so ardently endeavoured to manoeuvre but will be, in fact, a conference based entirely on the United Nations resolution adopted last year for studying the possibilities of agreeing on a Korean peace treaty and the political future of the country. Peking's position at the Geneva parley will be precisely that of every other nation represented there, and it implies neither international recognition of the Mao Tse-tung Government nor any right for Communist China to be admitted to the United Nations. The latter point is of particular importance, and Mr. Eden very properly made Britain's attitude clear on the subject. Britain's de jure recognition of the Peking regime does not carry with it support for Red China's admission to the UN. That may come in time, but only given certain reassuring actions by Peking—actions which so far have been conspicuous by their absence.

WHEN Mr. Eden declared that Britain's relations with Communist China were far from satisfactory, he was, in many minds, indulging in an understatement. It is nearer the mark to observe that diplomatic relations scarcely exist. The Chinese Communists, themselves have rendered British recognition a mere formality. No attempt has been made by Peking to establish any normal diplomatic affiliations. The British Charge d'Affaires in Peking has been denied any sort of proper status. British notes of protest and others requesting information have either been ignored or peremptorily rejected. Nothing could be further removed from normal than the so-called diplomatic relations between London and Peking. This, as much as anything else, is bound to influence Britain's attitude to the question of Red China's admission to the United Nations. There are no signs as yet that the Peking Government desires to respect international obligations or that it wishes to play any constructive role in that family of nations. And until such signs are given in a positive and convincing manner, there can be no thought of Communist China gaining United Nations membership. At the moment she displays none of the necessary qualifications.

REBELS WIN STRONGHOLD

Withdrawal By French Union Forces FORTRESS LOST

Paris, Mar. 16.

Franco-Vietnamese forces have evacuated the northern stronghold of the besieged mountain fortress of Dien Bien Phu, northern Indo-China, according to reports reaching Paris early today.

This is the second position now in the hands of the Vietminh rebels, waging the fiercest offensive of the Indo-China war to capture the fortress.

After repeated fanatical assaults, French troops were reported to have pulled out of the position early yesterday. Earlier they had launched an infantry counter-attack, supported by heavy tanks.

Reports said the bodies of 1,500 Communists were lying on the barbed wire surrounding the post.—Reuter.

COUNTER-ATTACK

Hanoi, Mar. 15. Out-numbered and surrounded French Union troops defiantly hurled a crashing counter-attack against a Communist attack of up to 40,000 men assaulting Dien Bien Phu in the biggest pitched battle of the Indo-China war.

A French headquarters spokesman said that Colonel Christian De Castries commanding the cut-off fortress, sent paratroopers, Foreign Legionnaires, Moroccan and Vietnamese infantry with bayonets fixed against the encircling Reds in a daylong and desperate battle. A great yellow dust cloud rose over the stadium-shaped valley where Col. De Castries' men fought against the superior odds of more than three crack Vietminh divisions.

The French counter-attack smashed back after a second Communist assault wave swarmed against the bastion's defence under a quarter moon last night. The engagement lasted all day.

The French rushed fleets of warplanes and maximum artillery against the knock-out effort believed to have been launched against Dien Bien Phu under the personal leadership of crack Red General Vo Nguyen Giap.

FIGHT FOR LIVES

Tank cannon and artillery brought thunder to the fortified valley town 180 miles west of Hanoi where Col. De Castries' men fought for their lives in an outpost cut off like the frontier forts of America's old West.

A Vietminh High Command statement today claimed that Communist Bren guns now dominated the two French airfields at Dien Bien Phu. The attack, the Communist statement said, "wiped out the crack 3rd Battalion of the 13th Foreign Legion Brigade."

French fighter planes and bombers, gathered from all fronts, pounded the fort's attackers with high explosives and thousands of gallons of fiery napalm.

The High Command said that rebel losses were at least 1,000 and probably more so far. Many suicide squads sacrificed them-

selves, screaming, to blow a passage through thickets of French barbed wire guarding the defenders. French losses were undisclosed but were described as "severe."—United Press.

2 Rioting Students Killed

Tunis, Mar. 15. French police tonight opened fire with sub-machineguns against several hundred Tunisian students who tried to storm the Dar El Bey, the Tunisian Government offices. Two students were killed, five other demonstrators were reported to be seriously injured and dozens of students and some police were treated for light injuries in the first street rioting in the Tunisian capital for nearly two years.

Tunisian Nationalists claimed that 2,000 students had gathered in the Casbah Square, near the white-washed Government building in the Arab quarter of the town, but French police officers put the number at nearly 500.

At the same time, prisoners in Tunis gaol launched a brief demonstration, shouting anti-French and anti-Government slogans.

Nationalists called for a strike of shopkeepers on Tuesday to protest against today's casualties. Two French police officers were also seriously injured.

The students, who are attached to the Great Mosque, converged on the Casbah Square in four columns carrying Tunisian flags. The ostensible reason of the demonstration was to call on the Ministers for Religious Affairs. General Mohammed Sadekallah, to demand a "modernisation" of the statute. The Minister had already twice refused to receive them on Saturday.

Clashing with the police outside the Government building, the students bombarded it with a hail of stones, breaking many windows. Police reinforcements immediately went into action with tear gas bombs dispersing the students, who then sought refuge in the Great Mosque and nearby shops.

It was then that the first shots were fired. The French police claimed that demonstrators fired on them from balconies, but Tunisians alleged that the French were the first to use firearms.—Reuter.

133rd Birthday

Stockholm, Mar. 15. The oldest woman in Poland, Jozefa Szekiewicz, celebrated her 133rd birthday today, according to the Warsaw paper "Express Wieczorny". She still fetches water from the well at Miankowski village, in the Carpathian district.

ACTRESS LOSES LEG



Susan Ball, the Hollywood film star who had her leg amputated following an accident, smiles happily from her hospital bed. She is rapidly gaining strength, and is looking forward to resuming her film career, and to getting married. Her fiancé has been a constant visitor at her bedside during her stay in hospital.—London Express.

Egyptians Fire On British Officers

Fayid, Suez Canal, Mar. 15.

Two British officers walking from "Tangier camp" into "Kensington Village", in the Fayid area of the Suez Canal zone, were fired on by two Egyptians armed with sten guns last night.

A British military spokesman said one of the Egyptians' sten gun jammed three times in succession and the second man opened fire, but missed.

Both Egyptians then turned round and fled.

The spokesman also disclosed a Palestinian Arab warden had been found shot and stabbed at a NAAFI store in one of their Fayid camps.

The NAAFI stockroom had been broken into and large quantities of cigarettes stolen. There was a break in the perimeter wire surrounding the camp and three cartridge cases were found nearby, the spokesman added.

Investigations into the shooting of an Egyptian police officer on Thursday night were still proceeding, the spokesman went on.

He said two British soldiers involved were being held as material witnesses.

It is understood the officer was shot dead when trying to stop a quarrel between British troops and Egyptian labourers.

A British Army spokesman said the body was taken to a British military post by two British servicemen, but the circumstances were "obscure."

NO PROTEST YET

A British Embassy spokesman tonight denied Egyptian press reports that the Egyptian Government had formally protested against the shooting of the police officer or against the setting up of British mobile checkpoints along the Tel El Kebir road.

Last night, Lieutenant-Colonel Zakaria Mohamedin, the Egyptian Minister of the Interior, told reporters he was awaiting a full report on the investigation and that the matter was now in the hands of the public prosecutor.

Observers in Cairo tonight pointed out the remarkable restraint of the Egyptian authorities in not over-publicising Canal zone incidents.

They associated this attitude with current efforts to find a basis for resuming Canal zone talks. There has been a slight decrease in the rate of incidents throughout the Canal zone during the past few weeks. It is believed the Egyptian Government is studying the question of compensation for the losses incurred in the Canal zone and is waiting for the British Government to make a proposal.

Thrilling Escape Story

REFUGEES IN GUN BATTLE

Vienna, Mar. 15.

The thrilling story of an escape from a group of ten Hungarian refugees, including a child of five, to Austria after travelling half-across Hungary and shooting down two Communist policemen in a gun battle, was revealed here today by United States officials.

The six men, three women, and a child, who started by train from Budapest, walked the last 50 miles to the Austrian province of Burgenland, moving at night and hiding during the day. Four developed frost-bitten feet on the first night of their week-long trek and had to be assisted or carried the rest of the way by the others. There was nothing to eat for the last two days, the refugees reported.

The little band was caught three times during its flight, but each time managed to escape. Even as the half-starved and crippled refugees hobbled through the last mile and a half of patrolled minefield in the border "no-man's-land," they could see the Police with flashlights 200 yards behind, following their tracks.

The refugees, who arrived in Vienna by bus from the border, have been under the care of the United States "escape programme," it was learned here. It is understood that all have recovered, except one woman who is still in hospital for frost-bite.

Officials are withholding the matter to protect relatives in Hungary.

THE GUN FIGHT

The shooting occurred on the night of March 2 when Hungarian Police stumbled upon the party in the dark about two miles east of a small town. The refugees had stopped to rest in the shelter of some woods and the leader went forward to find the best route towards the border.

Suddenly a shot whistled past the leader's head, followed by a command to halt. Another bullet was fired and then he saw a policeman running towards him. He drew his own pistol and brought the figure down with five rapid shots.

He then ran away from the group, knowing there would be at least one more policeman in the neighbourhood, and soon saw the second man. He fired twice more, and the other policeman also fell.—France-Press.

Explosion Blasts Boat 70 Miles Away

Tokyo, Mar. 16.

An atom explosion, probably from a hydrogen bomb, early this month blasted a Japanese fishing boat 70 miles away, critically injuring two and injuring the entire remainder of the crew — another 21 men.

Crowmen said the blast occurred on March 1. They struggled back to Japan with their vessel cloaked in a whitish ash-like substance and today, the national news agency Kyodo, carried their story.

They suffered burns, a reddening and blackening of the skin and, in some cases, their hair fell out.

Japanese doctors today tested the "death ashes" carried back to Japan on a Japanese fishing vessel which saw and suffered the blast of an atomic explosion in mid-Pacific on March 1.

Scientists studied burns and skin lesions on 23 crewmen and diagnosed them as cases of radio-activity after contact with the fall of ash from a presumed hydrogen bomb.

The Japanese Foreign Ministry said this morning it was studying the question of compensation for the losses incurred in the blast and reported that it had asked the Government to make a proposal.

Trade Talks Fiasco

(Our Own Correspondent)

London, Mar. 15.

The news leaked out in Berlin tonight that some British businessmen are discussing the formation of a breakaway group, from the China Trade Committee, offshoot of the British Council for the Promotion of International Trade.

They say, "We represent reputable firms. Why should all the business have to go through Mr. Berger? This isn't our normal way of conducting business."

Only one businessman, Mr. George Williamson, a Director of Crompton Parkinson, electrical engineer, saw the Chinese alone. He was in Berlin at the specific invitation of the Chinese and his independent talks would continue he said, adding that his firm was once a member of the Council but had withdrawn.

Five businessmen from Britain and ten representing British firms on the Committee did in fact go to Berlin, but the Chinese refused to see them individually. In the late afternoon they saw all 15 together, and all were ushered into the street within ten minutes after being told by the Chinese that they were not wanted.

Mr. U.K. Chin, who is providing our shoppers with New Year's gifts, said, "These will be sent out through Mr. Berger."

Footnote: Mr. P. A. Timbrell, an official of the Council, told me tonight the Chinese had said they were not interested in the question of compensation for the losses incurred in the blast and reported that it had asked the Government to make a proposal.

Eisenhower Can't Agree To More Tax Concessions

Washington, Mar. 15.

President Eisenhower appealed to the nation today to support his tax programme which, he said, would strengthen the economy, provide more jobs and give added security to the American worker.

The President made his appeal in a nationwide television and radio speech in which he urged Congress to accept his programme of overall reductions which he limited to a total of \$1,397,000,000.

He strongly opposed suggestions for further tax concessions and warned that to further increase the Government's deficit by saving on taxes would be seriously weaken national defence.

Mr. Eisenhower said he could not accept suggestions by members of the Democratic Party in Congress for an increase in personal income tax exemptions from \$600 to \$700.

He said there was no justification for arguments that the nation was on the brink of disaster or for arguments that the situation called for further tax increases to increase the purchasing power of the people.

"Viewing with gloom is only to be expected in the spring of an election year," the President said.

"The truth is we do not have a depression. And what's more, as I have said time and time again, your Government will continue to use its full powers to make sure that we don't have one."

"A month ago, I expressed to Congress my belief that we would be able to go from wartime to peacetime conditions without serious economic trouble. Nothing has happened since to change my mind."

"Some unemployment has developed in different parts of the country, but the nation as a whole continues to be prosperous."

SECURITY
"The broad programme I have proposed to Congress will strengthen our economy. When it is approved by Congress, it will both increase the number of jobs and make every man secure in the job that he has."

Mr. Eisenhower said that his Administration had already cut, or would cut, by the end of this fiscal year \$12,000,000,000 from the budget recommended by the Truman Administration before it left office in January, 1952.

"But this is an election year," he added. "Some think it is good politics to promise more and more Government spending and at the same time more and more tax cuts for all. We know from bitter experience what such a policy would finally lead to. It would make our dollars buy less."

To make large additional savings in the cost of Government at present means seriously weakening the national defence of the United States, the President added.

"I do not know any friend of the United States who wants that under present conditions."

Mr. Eisenhower said that his chief objections to suggestions of an increase in personal income tax exemption was that a \$100 exemption, for instance, would excuse one taxpayer in every three from paying all Federal income taxes.

"I think this is wrong," he said. "I am for everybody paying his fair share. I simply don't believe for one second that anyone privileged to live in this country wants someone else to pay his own fair and just share of the cost of his Government."

The President asked Congress to reconsider its decision to reduce corporation taxes from 52 per cent to 47 per cent next month.

He said the extension of the extra tax on corporations would provide enough money to pay the costs of the benefits which his own tax revision programme would bring to individuals and businesses.

"Everyone wants tax reductions of the right kind, at the right time," he said. "That specifically includes this Act." (Continued on back page, Col. 4)

Hand-Shaking May Be Banned

Canberra, Mar. 15.

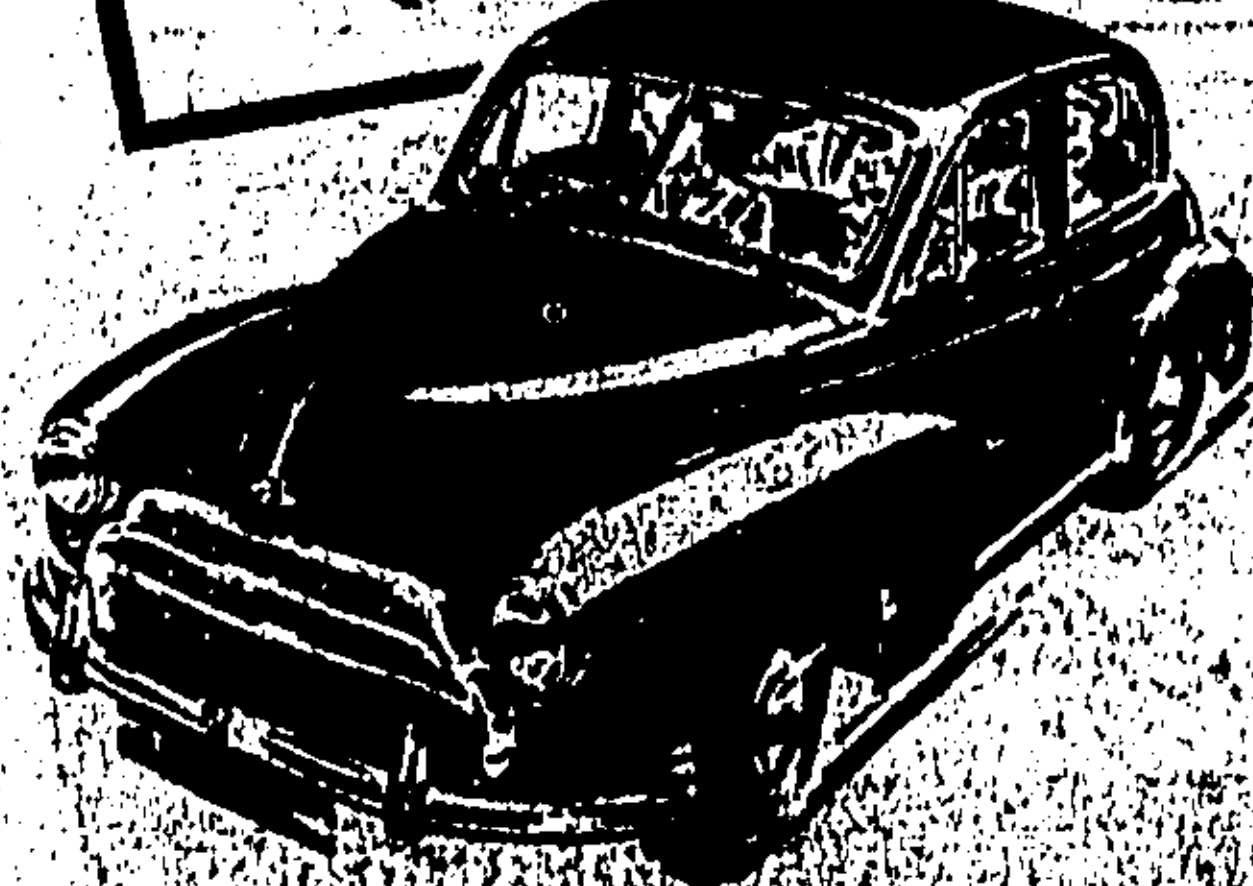
The Australian Health Department has recommended a ban on shaking hands with the Queen during her tour of Western Australia to "safeguard" her against the polio epidemic which has hit the state.

The Department has also recommended that all food for the Royal couple should come either from the Royal yacht, Gothic, or Australia's eastern states, that big gatherings of school children should be cancelled and that people presented to the Queen should stand further away than usual.

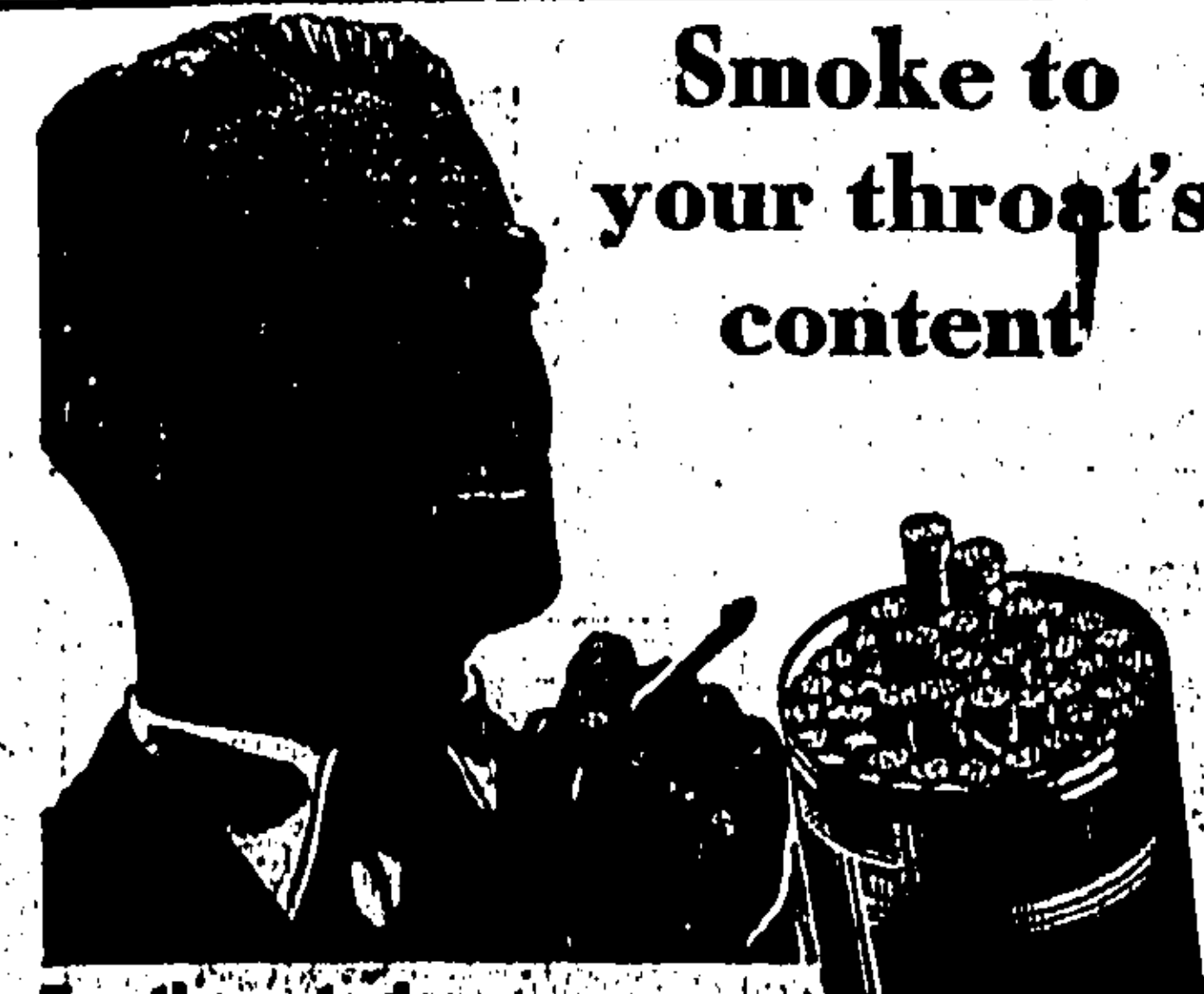
The recommendations have been made to the Royal tour authorities, but not yet finally accepted, authoritative sources said here today.—Reuter.

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"MEN, MONEY AND ME... GO TOGETHER!"

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Screen Play by ARTHUR LEVINS and CYRILL SCOTT • Produced by SAM KATZMAN • Directed by WILLIAM CASTLE

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Complimentary Tickets are not valid for this picture

LANIEL IS IN NO HURRY

Procrastination Annoys US Officials

She Made 3d On This Hold-up

London, Mar. 15. A 70-year-old Nottingham shopkeeper, Mrs Jane Nicholson, made three pence from an attempted holdup in her shop yesterday.

A youth bought some sweets, pointed a gun at her, but the youth bolted empty handed, leaving his three pence change on the counter — after she fled through a side door.

German Ties With NATO Suggested

London, Mar. 15. The Conservative Daily Telegraph said today the true solution for European unity "would seem to be the inclusion of Germany in NATO."

The newspaper said: "It is impossible to avoid sympathy with France in the decision that she will shortly have to take with regard to the European Defence Community."

"As the debate in the National Congress of the Radical Party has shown, this question divides the whole nation, and even men who normally agree on other matters find it hard to know the right answer."

"The hostility to ratification does not come from the Communists alone, but men whose patriotism is beyond suspicion find themselves at one with the Communists in this issue."

ONLY NETHERLANDS

"Hitherto, it has been possible to postpone the day of decision, and of the six members of EDC, only the Netherlands has so far completed the process of ratification."

"But the postponement has been achieved at a price. Franco-German relations have definitely grown worse during the discussions, and partly as a result of the discussions."

"There was a period immediately after the war when it appeared that France and Germany were prepared to bury the enmity of a thousand years, but great historical divisions are not so easily erased, and old suspicions are reasserting themselves."—China Mail Special.

Circumnavigated Australia In 30-Foot Ketch

Perth, Mar. 16. Mr and Mrs Trevor Tuckfield have arrived back at Fremantle after a four-year 20,000-mile voyage around the coast of Australia in an eight-and-a-half-ton 30-foot ketch.

They received a warm welcome from the people who boarded the gleaming white vessel yesterday.

The Major of Fremantle, Mr W. F. Sampson, told them they had shown that the British spirit of adventure was still alive.

The distance around Australia is considerably less than 20,000 miles, but Mr Tuckfield explained that the extra mileage logged was caused by zig-zag under sail.—China Mail Special.

Paris, Mar. 15. Premier Joseph Laniel steadfastly refused today to set a date for a final French vote on the European Army Treaty.

The United States, anxious that the French should ratify the treaty as soon as possible, has not yet conceded its behind-the-scenes fight to get M. Laniel to force a show-down in the French National Assembly on the controversial treaty.

Three times in three days — Thursday, Friday and Saturday — the United States Ambassador, Mr C. Douglas Dillon, has gone to the Quai D'Orsay to confer with the French Foreign Minister, M. Georges Bidault. More meetings are scheduled this week.

The United States is seeking to prevent Franco-American relations from exploding publicly over the questions of the European Army and Indo-China.

Left-wing and Communist newspapers maintained today that Mr Dillon has been laying harsh ultimatums on M. Bidault's glided Louis XVIII desk. The Embassy and the Ministry issued prompt denials.

M. Laniel was questioned today by a prominent supporter of EDC — M. Robert Lecourt, Parliamentary leader of M. Bidault's Roman Catholic Popular Republican (MRP) Party — as to when he would go before the Deputies. M. Lecourt left M. Laniel's office with no more information than when he entered. This Spring, he thought — perhaps in May — would be the time for the final debate and decision by the Deputies.

Mr Dulles left Berlin convinced that the French Government would seek a final decision on the EDC treaty before the Geneva Peace Conference. The conference began on April 26 and before the French Parliament took its Easter vacation on April 16.

It was an open secret at Berlin that Mr Dulles agreed to the Geneva parity with Communist China to strengthen M. Bidault's position with the Assembly and to improve the chances of EDC ratification. Mr Dulles left Berlin persuaded that the West had exposed Soviet unwillingness to compromise in Europe and had thus paved the way for prompt EDC ratification by France.

DISAPPOINTED

This, he told reporters, was the "major victory" of the conference.

United States officials are now disappointed at M. Laniel's refusal to yield the fruits of that "triumph."

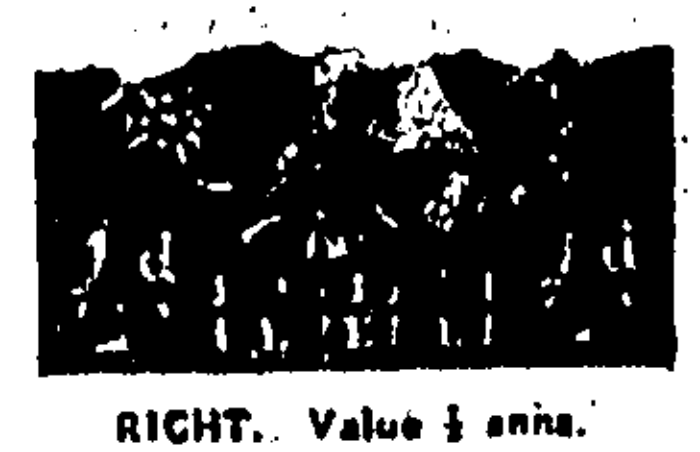
At best M. Laniel will get the EDC out of the Committee and on to the floor of the Chamber — but with no vote — before the Easter recess and the Geneva conference.

Even for that minimum concession, France is asking a price from the United States, Britain and Germany. Mr Dillon and M. Bidault have been discussing a possible guarantee to France of United States troop commit-

This Omission Means Money

WRONG. Value . . .

RIGHT. Value 3 annas.



Stamps which have just reached London from Bahrain in the Persian Gulf are remarkable for an omission which has probably never occurred before.

Normally these Elizabethan stamps have a surcharge printed in annas. But Mr B. W. Phillips, philatelist, pointed out four stamps on an envelope. All have the word "annas" printed on them, but no figure showing the value of the stamp.

Collectors with envelopes bearing these faulty stamps believe the value of them may be hundreds of pounds.

Civil Defence Plans To Be Studied

Paris, Mar. 15. The French Government planned to study a programme for the dual purpose of civil defence in the event of war and of protection against a major catastrophe, such as a big fire or a natural calamity, the Interior Minister, M. Leon Martinand, said tonight.

He said the decision to study the programme had been taken at an inter-ministerial meeting today.

According to preliminary surveys, the project was believed to involve an expense of about 68,000,000,000 francs (about US\$190,000,000) over a period of several years.

Another inter-ministerial meeting took place today and considered a proposal by the Defence Minister, Mr Rene Pleven, for improving the situation of military personnel. It was believed possible that this question might be brought up tomorrow in the National Assembly. —France-Press.

Sara Churchill Returns To West End

London, Mar. 15. Sara Churchill, stage and screen actress daughter of Sir Winston Churchill, arrived today from New York to appear on a London stage.

Miss Churchill, wife of a well-known Californian photographer, Mr Anthony Beauchamp, might also play the leading role in a film on World War II here. —France-Press.

Young Mother To Fly Solo Around the World

New York, Mar. 15. A pert young mother of two, inspired by the challenge left by Amelia Earhart, plans to take off from San Francisco on Wednesday on a round-the-world solo flight she hopes will break existing records.

Dianna Bixby, 31, will be at the controls of a converted Mosquito bomber, a fast, high-altitude British plane used during World War II.

Flying via Newark, New Jersey, Paris, Bagdad, Saudi Arabia, Karachi, Calcutta, Tokyo, Midway Island and back to San Francisco, she will be out to break the late Bill Odom's unofficial solo record of 73 hrs, 5 mins, 11 secs.

Her flight plan on the 20,525-mile trip calls for an average 385 miles an hour that would return her to San Francisco 60 hours and 20 minutes after the take-off.

If she can do it, she will have accomplished what only two men — Odom and Wiley Post — have done. Amelia Earhart, the only other woman to try a globe-circling flight was lost in the Pacific in 1937.

And, if she can do it, Mrs Bixby's times will be the first round-the-world record in the books because her course is one prescribed by the National Aeronautical Association. Neither Post's nor Odom's was officially prescribed.

The trim Mosquito she will pilot is equipped with two 1,600 horsepower engines, two 200-gallon bomb bay fuel tanks and a high altitude pressurization system. It is painted red, white and blue.

Mrs Bixby will use direction finders to find her way over the 20,525-mile course. She will take only minimum equipment with her — a rubber life raft, an emergency radio set, a standard survival kit, a parachute, a pistol, water and sandwiches. — United Press.

DAILY ROUTINE

To Mrs Bixby, handling planes is a daily routine. With her husband, Bob, she is co-owner of Bixby Airlines, a contract carrier operating out of Long Beach.

She and her husband are the firm's two pilots. They haul cargo from Mexico in daily plane flights.

Mrs Bixby started flying in 1943 while travelling with her first husband, an Air Force pilot. He was shot down and lost during World War II. Dianna kept on flying and became a co-pilot with a West Coast Air Freight Company where she met and later married Bixby.

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SHOWING TO-DAY

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THEY LOVED LUCY!

She was no help — she was a creep, a crank, a terrible task!

starring **SCOTT BRADY**

A COLUMBIA PICTURE

Alamein

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1953 INTERNATIONAL SOCCER GAMES IN EUROPE

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BRUCE WILSON • BILLY ROSS • BOB HOPE • WILLIAM BOYD

A COLUMBIA PICTURE

COMING TO THE EMPIRE THEATRE

POP

ARE YOU REGISTERED UNDER THE HEALTH SCHEME WITH A DOCTOR?

OH YES!

INSURANCE MOTOR MARIN

WHICH DOCTOR?

Plain medicine

NO! DO I LOOK AS IF I BELONG TO THE MAU MAU?

YOUNG LIVING

YOUNG LIVING

YOUNG LIVING

YOUNG LIVING

YOUNG LIVING

YOUNG LIVING

NEW ATOMIC ARMAMENT PLANS

Strengthening
Flood Walls

TO SOVIET SATELLITES:

Britain Offers
A Wide
Range Of Goods

Geneva, Mar. 15. The Joint British Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, Lord Reading, said today Britain would welcome any purchases by East European countries of "the wide range of consumer goods which are traditional United Kingdom exports".

He added "We can offer in return a market for almost all Eastern European foodstuffs and raw materials".

Lord Reading told the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe Britain was at present engaged in trade negotiations with Poland and would soon begin trade talks with Hungary and Czechoslovakia. Britain welcomed the East-West trade talks to be held next month.

The Soviet delegate Mr Pavel Komykin who spoke before Lord Reading told the Commission: "The whole concept of strategic goods has been widened in recent times and now includes a considerable number of commodities and goods which form a fundamental obstacle to the expansion of trade."

Lord Reading said Britain would certainly take part in the discussions on East-West trade.

"We favour this practical approach to a very difficult problem, though I must point out that these consultations cannot replace the detailed trade negotiations which must take place in the capitals of the countries concerned."

Lord Reading noted "with great interest" the changes in the economic and commercial policies of Eastern Europe.

It was too early to judge how significant these changes would be, but the increased emphasis on consumer requirements seemed to offer great hopes for a valuable expansion in commercial exchanges between East and West, he said.

On Saturday the British delegation presented a draft resolution in the Commission stressing the great importance of removing economic obstacles to increasing trade among all European countries and welcoming the East-West trade talks due to open in Geneva on April 20.

LONG TERM FACTS

The resolution supported a Soviet suggestion to revive the Commission's Committee on the Development of Trade, which has not met for five years, but qualified this by opposing consultation on the question after the April talks.

Russia suggested the committee might study the possibilities of concluding long term and multilateral trade and payments agreements between European countries.

Today the delegations of Poland, Bulgaria, Hungary and Rumania joined in backing a revival of East-West trade.

Lord Reading spoke after Mr Pavel Komykin, Russia, who said the British draft resolution referred specifically to the removal of "economic obstacles" and asked "what exactly was meant by this?"

"The Soviet Union is against the development of trade in war material and war equipment," the Soviet delegate said.

FUNDAMENTAL OBSTACLE

"But the whole concept of strategic goods has been widened in recent times and now includes a considerable number of commodities and goods which form a fundamental obstacle to the expansion of trade."

For Poland, Mr Julius-Katz said the British draft resolution referred specifically to the removal of "economic obstacles" and asked "what exactly was meant by this?"

"The Soviet Union is against the development of trade in war material and war equipment," the Soviet delegate said.

POLISH SUPPORT

In return she could import a wide range of consumer goods and manufactured products.

Mr Katz said Poland pledged full Polish support for the forth-

coming East-West trade talks and said his delegation favoured the Soviet resolution.

France and the Netherlands supported the British proposal for further consultation after the April talks on the advisability of reviving the ECE trade committee.

Baron C. A. Bentinck, the Dutch delegate, said his country favoured a "gradual and not too ambitious advance" toward the development of East-West trade.

For France, M. Andre Philip emphasised the value of long term contracts with the Eastern countries to avoid "unpleasant surprises" in the shape of an imbalance of trade after a certain period.—Reuter.

Caracas, Mar. 15. Western Hemisphere nations today began debate on ways to end European colonies on the American Continent.

The Brazilian delegate, Alexandre Marcondes Jr., urged the conference to endorse a Brazilian resolution expressing "firm conviction" that "Colonial rule of extra-continental powers should be 'definitely eliminated as soon as possible and calling for United Nations trusteeship for any colonial territory not prepared to exercise its rights of self-determination."

"America will fulfil its historical destiny in its quest for liberty when no dependent territories remain in our continent," said Senor Marcondes.

Interest in the debate is centred on Argentina's claims to the Falkland Islands, occupied by Britain, Guatemala's claims against Britain in British Honduras, and the desire of most American States to see Dutch, French and Danish Colonies in the Western Hemisphere given independence.

The United States will oppose recommendations on the grounds that the European colonial powers are not represented at the conference, informants said.

Earlier ministers of 20 nations represented on the Political Committee of the 10th Inter-American Conference, voted in favour of Panama's anti-discrimination resolution. Guatemala alone refused to support the measure and abstained at the final vote.

The Panamanian resolution, aimed primarily at the United States, recommended that all American States adopt legal and educational measures to abolish racial discrimination "as one of the means of combating international Communism."

While the resolution was Hemisphere-wide, Panama had complained in earlier debates today that the United States was guilty of discrimination in the Panama Canal Zone. But the United States voted for the measure because of its broader scope.

Guatemala said its abstention should not be interpreted as endorsing racial discrimination. It refused to support the plan, however, on political grounds.

The United States voted against the United States resolution because of the intervention of international Communism in the Hemisphere.—United Press.

ANNOUNCED
America To Equip
Fighters As
Well As Bombers

Washington, Mar. 15.

The United States Air Force plans to equip every offensive fighter as well as bomber with atomic weapons for tactical use against enemy ground forces, the Air Force Chief of Staff, General Nathan Twining, announced today.

"It is also Air Force policy that we will be able to deliver those weapons on a round-the-clock basis, regardless of weather," he told the Armed Services Sub-committee of the Senate Appropriations Committee.

He also said the United States was now deploying two squadrons of B-61 Matador pilotless bombers to reinforce the tactical air forces in Europe.

The Soviet threat of atomic war was neither static nor diminishing, he told the Committee. "On the contrary, our intelligence indicates that the Soviet Air Force is steadily and skillfully being increased in quality and effectiveness," General Twining stated.

These intelligence reports showed that Russia was developing more advanced long-range bombers capable of direct attack on the United States; a large force of light jet bombers which posed a serious threat in Europe and the Far East; and a more adequate air defence system with modern radar warning and improved jet interceptors.

The demonstrated ability of the Russians to produce atomic weapons and deliver them dictated increased United States emphasis on air preparedness, he added.

The United States was rapidly completing a system of overlapping bases within easy reach of "enemy targets" and was providing superior jet fighters for the defence of such bases.

BIG REDUCTION

American armed forces, other than the Air Force, would be slashed by more than 400,000 men between the end of this year and June 1955, Mr Charles Wilson, American Secretary of Defense, announced today.

Ridgway's Anxiety

Washington, Mar. 15.

The U.S. Army Chief of Staff, General Matthew Ridgway, said today there was "no supportable reason" to expect abandonment of the ultimate intentions of the Soviet bloc to bring about our downfall nor reason for expecting any Soviet concessions on the major problems contributing to present international tension.

The former United Nations Commander in Korea, who was also addressing the Senate armed forces appropriations subcommittee, expressed his anxiety concerning the U.S. Government's "new look" military programme increasing air power and reducing its Army strength.

"The United States and its free world Allies are being faced by Communist armies, navies and air forces formidable in size, modern in material and technique, deployed in threatening posture around the periphery of the Iron Curtain from the North German plain to the maritime areas of Eastern Siberia.

"The growth of Soviet nuclear capabilities has come to form the basis for an increasing threat to the United States.

"The advent of new weapons and the increased importance of air power cannot but give new meaning and wider scope to the dimension of land warfare, without changing war's nature and basic object. The ultimate objective of the entire effort is control of land and of people living on land."

General Ridgway said he was not expecting any Soviet concessions on major problems and expressed anxiety at the Administration's programme increasing the air force and reducing the land forces.

"Through such a reduction our capabilities will be lowered while our responsibilities for meeting the continuing threat have yet to be correspondingly lessened."

"The strength of the major components of the Soviet bloc military power continues to increase and its industrial capabilities continue to expand,"—France-Press.

No Date Fixed
For Atomic Talks

Washington, Mar. 15.

No date has yet been set for the next talk between the Secretary of State, Mr John Foster Dulles, and the Soviet Ambassador, Mr Georgi Zarubin, on the peaceful uses of atomic energy, a State Department spokesman said today.

Last week the Soviet Ambassador had discussed the subject with the U.S. Under-Secretary of State, Mr Walter Bedell Smith, while Mr Dulles was attending the inter-American conference at Caracas.

—France-Press.

Montagu Trial Opens:
Counsel's
Warning To The Jury

London, Mar. 15.

A slender, dark-haired young airman told a court at Winchester today of homo-sexual parties on the vast estate of 27-year-old bachelor peer, Lord Montagu of Beaulieu.

He also told of men dancing together at one of these parties while others went into bedrooms.

The witness made his statements at the opening of the trial here of Lord Montagu and two other men on a total of 18 homo-sexual charges.

The other accused are Michael Pitt Rivers, 37, a second cousin of the peer, and Peter Wildeblood, 30, a London journalist. They all pleaded not guilty.

Some of the charges involved two young airmen, Corporal Edward McNally, 23, and Aircraftman John Reynolds, 21, who admitted in preliminary hearings that they were both "queers" (perverts) and had been so for years.

McNally was the prosecution's first witness today, dressed in a black jacket and striped trousers—traditional garb of London businessmen. He told his story to an all-male jury in the great hall of the medieval castle here, where the trial is being held.

In the course of his evidence one of the airman, Corporal Edward McNally, said he could remember how many times he had committed unnatural acts with men.

The corporal also admitted writing a letter to a man beginning "my husband dear." This had not prevented him paying court over a long time to a young girl.

McNally agreed that he had committed unnatural acts with the defendant Wildeblood.

Tropical Isles
To Let In
Indian Ocean

If you want a small tropical island with palm trees, glistening sandy beaches and plenty of sun, a Government department have several to let.

The Government of the Seychelles, a British colonial outpost of some 92 islands in the Indian Ocean, have announced that they have "islands to let."

No rates, no income tax, abundant fish and fruit, a tropical climate tempered by sea breezes—these are the attractions offered.

The Seychelles Government have decided to conditionalise certain local industries, to abolish tax on certain of the islands' exports and to lease outlying islands to individuals.

30 YEARS' LEASE

Tenders have been invited for 30 years' leases of the islands of Aldabra, Comorels and Assumption. Anyone can apply.

But you must convince the authorities that you are a pioneer type, prepared to make the growing of copra, vegetables and fruit a commercial success.

Offers, says the Colonial Office, have already been received from Egypt and Elze, among other countries.

The total population of the three islands is 300. Successful buyers would become virtual sovereigns and would have a particularly rare and special species of turtle among the advantages.

The previous leaseholders were an industrial firm in London.

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"No Drunks At
Royal Ball"

Melbourne, Mar. 15.

Melbourne's Lord Mayor, Councillor E. H. Golly, and Councillor O. J. Nielsen, a former Londoner, have sprung to the defence of the behaviour of 6,000 guests at the Royal Ball here.

Councillor Golly said yesterday he was proud of the guests, and added: "As an official host, I was one of the last to leave the ballroom, and I did not see any sign of drunkenness."

He was commenting on the statement by the Baptist Minister, Rev. J. Lewis Arthur, who yesterday said the guests at the ball "drank themselves insensible," and others acted as "merely dressed-up tips."—China Mail Special.

ATOM SMASHER
WORKING

Berkeley California, Mar. 15.

The bevator, World's most powerful atom smasher, is in operation here, California University authorities announced today.

Weighing 10,000 tons, the instrument has accelerated protons, nuclei of hydrogen bombs, to 4,700 million electron volts, the highest energy achieved in an atom smasher.

The bevator is designed to reach an energy of 6,250 million electron volts.—Reuter.

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"Conscience
Money"

Las Vegas, Mar. 15. A local theatre has received a cheque for \$15 from a Los Angeles woman who said she attended the movies at juvenile prices long after she passed the 12-year age limit.

"I don't know exactly how much I owe you," her letter said, "but I think this will more than cover the amount. Please forgive me."—United Press.

The Pope Is
Slowly
Recovering

Vatican City, Mar. 15.

Pope Pius XII continued his slow but steady convalescence from a 50-day-old attack of stomach trouble today and Vatican sources said that his recovery appears to be only a question of time.

The source said that he is eating more and staying up longer every day.

The source, a discredited Press reports distributed abroad that the Pope's illness, officially diagnosed as gastritis on February 5, has now been identified by his doctors as stenosis of the pylorus, contraction of the small end of the stomach which leads into the small intestine.

The source pointed out that no new tests have been made by the Pope's doctors after the first round of X-rays and other tests early in February, which lead to the official diagnosis of gastritis.—United Press.

New Liner
With The "Dream
Kitchens"

Below decks, the 29,000-ton P. and O. liner Arcadia, now on her maiden voyage to Australia, earned a name for herself before sailing from London which may be unknown to her passengers.

"The ship without a dishcloth," was the title given her by the kitchen staff.

At times take the place of dishcloths in the Arcadia's galleys. Four of them can wash 16,000 plates or 20,000 cups in an hour.

Other machines in the kitchens—a woman's paradise staffed entirely by men—include:

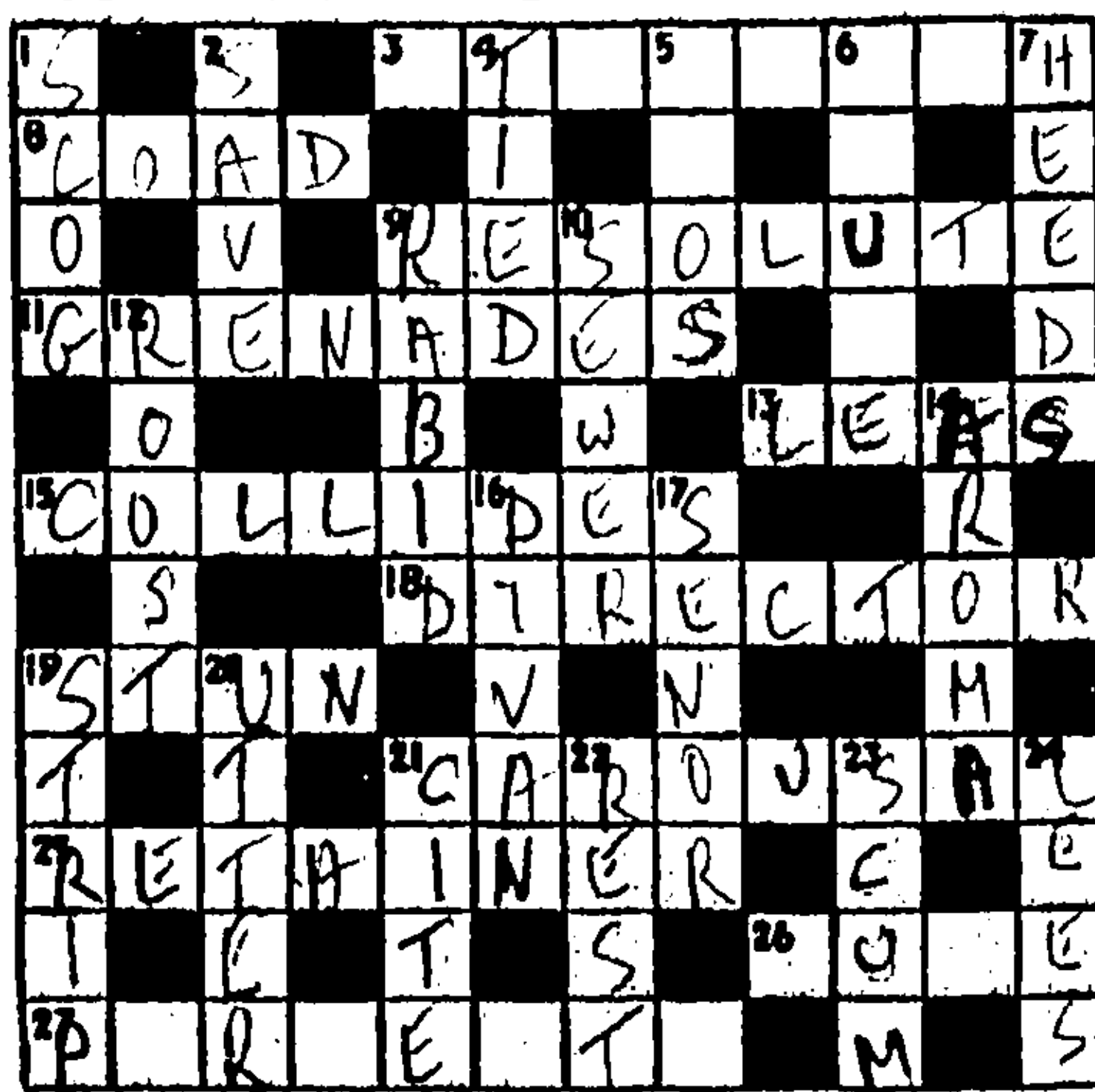
A bread slicer that butters at the same time and makes every roll the same size;

Eight grills which cook meat both sides at once;

A thermostatically-controlled six-pan fish fryer.

There is also a ship's laundry which can handle 50,000 pieces of washing in a week.

A British Crossword Puzzle



ACROSS DOWN

- 3 Power (8).
8 Burden (4).
9 Determined (8).
11 Oceans (11).
13 Meadows (4).
15 Crashes into (8).
16 Business chief (8).
19 Stuffy (4).
21 Orgy (8).
26 Servant (8).
28 Dumb (4).
27 Pervade (8).

- 1 Thrash (4).
2 Escuse (4).
4 Fastened (4).
5 Cupid (4).
6 Transparent material (8).
7 Takes notice of (5).
9 Mad (5).
10 Drain (5).
12 Preach (5).
14 Seal (5).
16 Seal (5).
17 Spanish title (8).
18 Donnie (5).
20 Extreme (5).
21 Quota (4).
22 Repose (4).
23 Dross (4).
24 Dress (4).

YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD.—Across: 1 Tensed, 4 Force, 7 Reserved, 8 Drift, 9 Dures, 11 Errand, 13 Intrude, 15 Starve, 16 Plant, 18 Reddened, 20 Taste, 21 Extend, Down: 1 Tired, 3 Scope, 5 Devised, 6 Fodder, 8 Radiator, 9 Exalt, 10 Matted, 12 Residue, 13 Impact, 14 Untrue, 15 Airt, 17 Faded.

The Opportunity At Geneva

By Patrick Maitland, MP

THE gaunt figure of Neville Chamberlain in top hat and flapping tails has for long haunted the chancelleries of Europe.

Few treaties concerning Eastern Europe have been framed since the days of his Peace Front bearing the stamp of his idealism.

Nearly all have assumed that an international agreement is similar to a business contract faced with moral principles.

Chamberlain brought this frame of mind from England's hard-headed industrial Midlands.

The essence of his kind of contract is summed up in the lawyers' Latin tag, "consensus ad idem," which, roughly translated, means that both parties must have the same intentions towards the business in hand. In fact, honesty.

But the Russians seem never to have thought like that.

There have been several agreements, among them the Satellite Peace Treaties and the U.N. Convention on Human Rights, obliging the signatories to free Eastern Europe on the basis of self-determination.

Another way

AT Berlin the Russians showed that they had no intention of being bound by these obligations, and at last came the chance to lay Chamberlain's ghost.

For there is another way of reaching agreements, which the West may adopt at Geneva. The Germans have a word for it — Realpolitik. It is only a neat way of putting what Machiavelli said at length in "The Prince."

This does not mean attempted swindling. But, as far as agreements are concerned, it means that they are not framed in terms of moral principles.

They reflect not what a nation may profess for others' benefit, but what it badly needs itself.

And there are some things that China and Russia may badly need, which the West could exchange for concessions.

An agreement on such lines would have a chance of lasting for some time. It might have a real meaning, particularly if it dealt with Southeast Asia.

For the key to this chance of better understanding is China.

Let down

RED China is willing to go to important lengths to obtain recognition in UNO, and there may be areas under her influence which she would consider expendable.

Indo-China may be one such region. And Ho Chi-minh might already realise this. His radio and press have made little comment on the Geneva conference, which is to discuss Indo-China.

Moreover, he knows that, although he has sent diplomatic envoys to Moscow and Peking, formal Soviet and Chinese embassies have not been dispatched in return.

Perhaps Ho Chi-minh recalls the fate of General Markos. He was once premier of Free Greece in the civil war, but at the end he disappeared, unrecognised and let down by his master. The same could happen to Ho Chi-minh.

The Russians might also see advantages in a settlement of Indo-China. It is believed that she is already becoming anxious of growing Chinese imperialism, with its danger of involving the USSR in some fresh conflict with the USA.

Some think that this fear has encouraged Russia to bring China to the conference table.

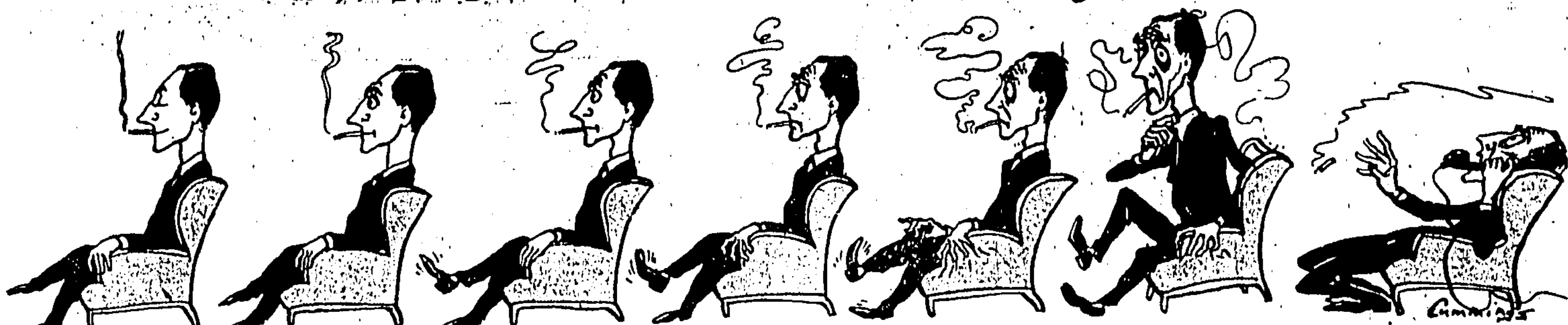
How far?

ON the basis of these facts, the Communist world, the West might be able to strike a bargain. But just how far the West can go towards admitting China to UNO is a complex question.

It would certainly be unwise to grant such status to China before receiving concrete and lasting advantages. In any case the tedious history of negotiations with the Communists must prevent over-optimism.

But even if Geneva proves no more fruitful than Berlin, there is hope that the West will approach the Communists this time more realistically.

TWO OVER THE FIVE... by Cummings



CIGARETTE No. 1

"What nonsense! Why, my grandfather smoked 30 every day and lived to the age of 95!"

No. 2

"besides, one's nerves would go to pieces if one didn't..."

No. 3

"... anyway it's just a lot of speculation..."

No. 4

"... and the loss in taxation would throw the nation's finances out of gear..."

No. 5

"speculation based on very little fact..."

No. 6

"... but certainly some fact..."

No. 7

"... doctor, you couldn't come round for a little check-up, could you?"

London Express Service

Concluding the adventure of the Deptford Horror

The NEW exploits of SHERLOCK HOLMES

WHAT HAS HAPPENED SO FAR

Holmes and Watson have been visiting a house in Deptford where three members of a family have died mysteriously. Now Miss Janet Wilson, who has inherited the property, is frightened and wants to move out. Her uncle Theobald, who trains canaries and also lives in the house, tries to calm the girl's fears. After examining the house Holmes and Watson leave, but return later armed with a golf club. Unbeknown to Theobald Wilson, they ask the girl to move to another room for the night. They then go to keep vigil in the girl's bedroom.

"Kill it! Smash it!" he yelled hoarsely, raining blow after blow with his golf club at the blurred shape racing across the walls.

Dust from broken plaster choked the air, and a table crashed over as I flung myself to the ground when the great spider cleared the room in a single leap and turned at bay. Holmes bounded across me, swinging his club. "Keep where you are!" he shouted, and even as his voice rang through the room the thud, thud, thud of the blows was broken by a horrible squealing sound. For an instant the creature hung there, and then, slipping slowly down, it lay like a mass of smashed eggs with three thin bony legs still twitching and plucking at the floor.

by ADRIAN CONAN DOYLE

certain of his canaries to imitate the song of some Cuban night-bird upon which the Galedodes fed. The marks on the ceiling were evidence, of course, by the foot adhering to the spiders' legs after they had scrambled up the flues. It is fortunate, perhaps, for the consulting detective that the dust of the average housemaid seldom strays beyond the height of a mantelpiece.

"Indeed, I can discover no excuse for my lamentable slowness in solving this case, for the facts were before me from the first and the whole affair was elementary in its construction."

"And yet to give Theobald Wilson his dues, one must recognise his almost diabolical cleverness. Once these horrors were installed in the stove in cellar, what more simple than to arrange two ordinary flies communicating with the bedrooms above. By hanging the cages over the stoves, the flies would themselves act as a magnifier to the bird's song and guided by their predatory instinct the creatures would invariably ascend whichever pipe led to it. Having devised some means of luring them back again to their nest, they represented a comparatively safe way of getting rid of those who stood between himself and the property."

"Then its bite is deadly?" I interposed.

"To a person in weak health, probably so. But there lies the devilish cunning of the scheme, Watson. It was the sight of the thing rather than its bite, poisonous though it may be, on which he relied to kill his victim. Can you imagine the effect upon an elderly woman, and later upon her son, both suffering from insomnia and heart disease, when in the midst of a bird's seemingly innocent song this appalling spectacle arose from the top of the stove? We have sampled it ourselves, though we are healthy men. It killed them as surely as a bullet through their hearts."

There is one thing I cannot understand, Holmes. Why did he appeal to Scotland Yard?

"Because he is a man of iron nerve. His niece was instinctively frightened and, finding that she was adamant in her intention of leaving, he planned to kill her at once and by the same method. Once done, who should dare to point the finger of suspicion at Master Theobald? Had he not appealed to Scotland Yard, and even invoked the aid of Mr. Sherlock Holmes himself to satisfy one and all? The girl had died of a heart attack like the others, and her uncle would have been the recipient of general condolences."

"Remember the padlocked cover of the stove in the cellar, and the cold nerve that offered to fetch the key. It was bluff of course, for he would have discovered that he had 'lost' it. Had we persisted and forced that lock, I prefer not to think of what we would have found clinging around our collars."

Theobald Wilson was never home again. But it is perhaps suggestive that some two days later, a man's body was fished out of the Thames. The corpse was mutilated beyond recognition probably by a ship's propeller, and the police searched his pockets in vain for means of identification. They contained nothing, however, save for a small notebook filled with jottings on the brooding period of the Fringilla Canaria.

"It is the wise man who keeps bees," remarked Sherlock Holmes when he read the report. "You know where you are with them and at least they do not attempt to represent themselves as something that they are not."

Another new Sherlock Holmes adventure starts on Saturday.

Kill it! Smash it! yelled Holmes

to the successful murderer—ruthlessness and imagination. But now, down the light like a good fellow and for a while let us relax. If my reading of the problem is correct, our nerves may be tested to their limit before we see tomorrow's dawn."

I lay back in the darkness and drawing some comfort from the thought that ever since the affair with Colonel Sebastian Moran I had carried my revolver in my pocket, I sought in my mind for some explanation that would account for the warning contained in Holmes's words. But I must have been wearier than I had imagined. My thoughts grew more and more confused and finally I dozed off.

"It was a touch upon my arm that awoke me. The lamp had been relit and my friend was bending over me, his long black shadow thrown upon the ceiling. "Sorry to disturb you, Watson," he whispered. "But duty calls."

"What do you wish me to do?"

"Sit still and listen. Peperino is singing."

It was a vigil that I shall long remember. Holmes had tilted the lampshade, so that the light fell on the opposite wall broken by the window and the great tiled stove with its hanging birdcage. The fog had thickened and the rays from the lamp, filtering through the window glass, lost themselves in luminous clouds that swirled and boiled against the panes.

My mind darkened by a premonition of evil, I would have found our surroundings melancholy enough without that eerie sound that was rising and falling from the ceiling cauldron. It was a kind of whistling beginning with a low throaty warble and slowly ascending to a single chord that rang through the room like the note of a great wren, a sound so mesmerizing in its repetition that almost imperceptibly the present seemed to melt away and my imagination to reach out beyond those fogbound windows into the dark lush depth of some exotic jungle.

I had lost all count of time and it was only the stiffness following the sudden cessation of the bird's song that brought me back to reality. I glanced across the room and, in an instant, my heart gave one great throb and then seemed to stop beating altogether.

The lid of the stove was slowly rising. My friends will agree that I am neither a nervous nor an impressionable man, but I must confess that, as I sat there gripping the sides of my chair and glaring at the dreadful thing that was gradually clambering into view, my limbs momentarily refused their functions.

The lid had tilted back an inch or more, and through the gap thus created a writhing mass of yellow stick-like objects was clawing and scrambling for a hold. And then, in a flash, it was out and standing motionless upon the surface of the stove.

Though I have always viewed with horror the bird-eating tentacles of South America, they shrank into insignificance when compared with the pale, slimy creature that faced us now across that lamp-lit room. It was

My heart gave one great throb and then seemed to stop beating altogether. The lid of the stove was slowly rising.

The sound roused the creature for, in a single lightning bound, it sprang from the stove to the top of the birdcage and, teaching the wall, whizzed round the room and over the ceiling with a dreadful scurrying swiftness that the eye could scarcely follow. Holmes flung himself forward like a man possessed.

"Don't move, Watson," whispered Holmes, and there was a note of horror in his voice that I had never heard before.

"Thanks to you, my dear fellow!" he said soberly. "If I had moved, then—but what is that?"

A door had slammed below and, in an instant later, we caught the swift patter of feet upon the gravel path.

"After him!" cried Holmes, springing for the door. "Your shot warned him that the game was up. He must not escape!"

But fate decreed otherwise. Though we rushed down the stairs and out into the fog, Theobald Wilson had too much start on us and the advantage of knowing the terrain. For a while we followed the faint sound of his running footsteps along the empty lanes towards the river, but at length these died away in the distance.

"It is no good, Watson," panted Holmes. "This is where the official police may be of use. But listen! Surely that was a cry?"

"I thought I heard something."

"Well, it is hopeless to look further in the fog. Let us return and comfort this poor girl with the assurance that any of the makers are now at an end."

"They were nightmare creatures, Holmes," I exclaimed, as we retraced our steps toward the house, "and of some unknown species."

"I think not, Watson," said he. "It was the Galedodes spider, the horror of the Cuban forests. It is perhaps fortunate for the rest of the world that it is found nowhere else. The creature is nocturnal in its habits and, unless its memory belies me, it possesses the power actually to break the spine of smaller creatures with a single blow of its mandibles. You will recall that Miss Janet mentioned that the rats had vanished. Once the uncle's return, Doubtless Wilson brought the brutes back with him," he went on, "and then conceived the idea of training



My heart gave one great throb and then seemed to stop beating altogether. The lid of the stove was slowly rising.

bigger in its spread than a large dinner-plate, with a hard, smooth, yellow body surrounded by legs that rising high above it, conveyed a fearful impression that the thing was crouching for its spring. It was absolutely hairless save for tufts of stiff bristles around the leg-joints, and above the glint of its great poison mandibles clusters of beady eyes shone in the light with a baleful red iridescence.

"Don't move, Watson," whispered Holmes, and there was a note of horror in his voice that I had never heard before.

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WOMEN'S GULLIBILITY DOESN'T SURPRISE

By LES ARMOUR

A BIRMINGHAM city analyst—who plainly doesn't believe that miracles come out of bottles—has been doing some digging into the things women buy to make them look like Marilyn Monroe.

He figures that the circus promoter must have been talking about women when he noted that there's a sucker born every minute.

Here, for instance, is what the analyst (Mr. H. H. Bagnall) had to say about a certain slimming preparation which the ladies are urged to put into their bath-water.

"You could probably get better results by drinking it."

It costs nearly \$1, but it is made of a combination of

Epsom salts, Glauber salts and common salt. The ingredients cost about a shilling.

Then there was an eyelash grower. This miracle substance was compounded of yellow petroleum jelly with coloring and perfume thrown in. It costs nearly as much as the "slimmer" but its ingredients sell for about three shillings a pound.

Eventually, he got around to an ardent lotion—used to pep up the skin. This prized potion turned out to be made of methylated spirit and mineral oil.

"The price," reports Mr. Bagnall, "was a measure of the (buyer's) gullibility." The spirit and oil can be bought for 4d.

How many women queue up for this stuff, no one seems to

know for sure. But business is brisk enough, apparently, for justify persistent advertising campaigns and there is no indication that any of the makers are going bankrupt.

The products Mr. Bagnall dug into cost between 15s. 6d. and a guinea. They are "worth" by long that anyone of the makers is a shilling.

The difficulty is that not all the beauty preparations on the market are fakes and not all sell at fabulous prices. But the customer has a hard time choosing between them.

Mostly, they are bought for their psychological effect—used to stir the price the bigger the mental boost the not-so-fair ladies seem to get from them.

Anyhow, Mr. Bagnall doesn't really think he is going to get very far.

He says women's gullibility no longer surprises him. "I have come to expect it."



BURMA GIVES HONGKONG A WALKOVER IN THOMAS CUP TOURNAMENT

By "ARGONAUT"

Although an official press release is still due from the Hongkong Badminton Association, it was reliably learned that Hongkong has received a walkover from Burma for their first round tie for the Thomas Cup competition.

The cable to the Hongkong Badminton Association by Burma states that Burma will not be able to field a team and will therefore concede a walkover to Hongkong.

This decision by the All-Burma Badminton Association will undoubtedly cause great disappointment to local players and followers of the game.

It was hardly expected that Burma would withdraw as the Burma team would have been expected to have come over here and as recently as last month they

were in active competition in a triangular tournament at Rangoon against All-Burma and the Eagle Badminton team of Bangkok.

If the poor results they obtained in this event in any way influenced their decision, it is most regrettable.

Hongkong will now meet Japan at Hongkong some time in November to vie for the right to meet the winner of the Thailand-India tie in the Asian Zone final.

Japan is still an unknown quantity and for Hongkong to get through to the next round, preparations in more concrete form will have to be made by the Association, particularly with regard to the training of Hongkong's potential team.

Hongkong will have to play a long time of other, irrespective of the decision of Burma, and once again it must be impressed that the sooner and the longer that Hongkong's Thomas Cuppers get on to the court for systematic practice and training the better can their performance be whether they win or lose.

The building up of Hongkong's doubles pairs will particularly take a considerable period of time.

LEAGUE MATCHES

In the two Men's "A" Division League matches played last night at the Chinese YMCA and Chinese YWCA, the Chinese Club went through their games with comfortable margins to draw away to their impending final play-off.

Consistently good form by Bill Funk, who took both his matches, and a partnership with Wang Kai-chung both his doubles sets, enabled Craigie to score a 7-2 triumph over Reelco.

The Valley Club won their deciding set in the sixth game of the evening after leading 4-1, when Funk accounted for Reelco by 15-7 in the singles.

Craigie enjoyed distinct superiority in the doubles, but

found the Reelco players vastly improved in the singles.

Bernard Brown sprang a major surprise by trouncing the hitherto unbeaten Craigie over third singles player, Jimmy Khoo by 15-9 and Billy Soares by 15-9.

Chinese YMCA met with stiffer opposition from St. Teresa's, being held to 3-3 before asserting their superiority in the doubles to capture the remaining three sets.

All St. Teresa's three points came from the singles, in which Johnny Pomeroy, Jr. repeated his earlier triumph over W. F. Foo, accounting for his opponent this time by 15-9.

J. C. Koh's powerful smashes pulled him through in his match against Foo by 15-11 and schoolboy Marquez-Lim scored a quick and comfortable 15-9 win over Lam Ming-tak.

THE SCORES

Men's "A" Division
CCC 7, Reelco 2

Singles
Bill Funk (CCC) beat Billy Soares 15-7, beat Francis Rozario 15-7.

D. C. Lau (CCC) lost to Soares 9-15, beat Rozario 15-13.

Jimmy Khoo (CCC) lost to Bernard Brown 5-15.

Doubles
Bill Funk & Wong Kai-chung (CCC) beat Soares & Rozario 21-11, beat H. F. Gonzales & Bernard Brown 21-5.

Robert Tay & Jimmy Khoo (CCC) beat Soares & Rozario 21-18, beat Gonzales & Brown 21-14.

St. Teresa's 3, Chinese YMCA 6

Singles
Junior Pomeroy (Saints) lost to Ramon Young 6-15, beat W. F. Foo 15-9.

Y. K. Koh (Saints) lost to Young 9-15, beat Foo 15-11.

Ed. Marquez-Lim (Saints) beat Lam Ming-tak 15-8.

Doubles
Koh & "Spuddy" Motta (Saints) lost to Young & Foo 15-21, lost to Patrick Wong & W. C. Chung 15-21.

Pomeroy & Marquez-Lim (Saints) lost to Young & Foo 4-21, lost to Wong & Chung 12-21.

LATEST STANDINGS

Men's "A" Division
CYMCA 5, W. L. F. A. 18, 17, 8
CCC 5, 4, 1, 28, 17, 8
St. Teresa 5, 1, 4, 18, 27, 2
Reelco 5, 1, 4, 16, 29, 2

Men's "B" Division
CCC v Tytan.
CYMCA v Reelco.

Gavilan Prepares For Olsen

Summit, New Jersey, Mar. 15.

Walterweight Champion Kid Gavilan went through his first official workout today in preparation for his attempt to wrest the middleweight crown from Bobo Olson at Chicago on April 2.

He sparred two rounds each with Andy Figueroa and Rocky Tomassello. He will box four rounds again tomorrow and then fly to Chicago where he will work out on Wednesday afternoon at the Mid-West Gymnasium.—United Press.

ARGUMENT OVER FOUL LED TO HOMICIDE

Dundee, South Africa, Mar. 15.

An African, Langs Mafundu, 22, was sent to prison for two years (one year suspended on condition of good behaviour) for culpable homicide during a soccer match.

Mafundu played in a game between two African teams when there was an argument about an alleged foul and another African, Sgabalala, was killed.—China Mail Special.

India Enters The Empire Games

Vancouver, Mar. 15.

India today entered for the British Empire and Commonwealth games to be held here from July 30 to August 7.

India originally planned to by-pass the games in favour of the Asian games in Manila, but a telegram arrived here today from Mr. Molnar, Head of the Indian Olympic Association.

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India's entry brings the total number of countries to be represented to 25.—Reuters.

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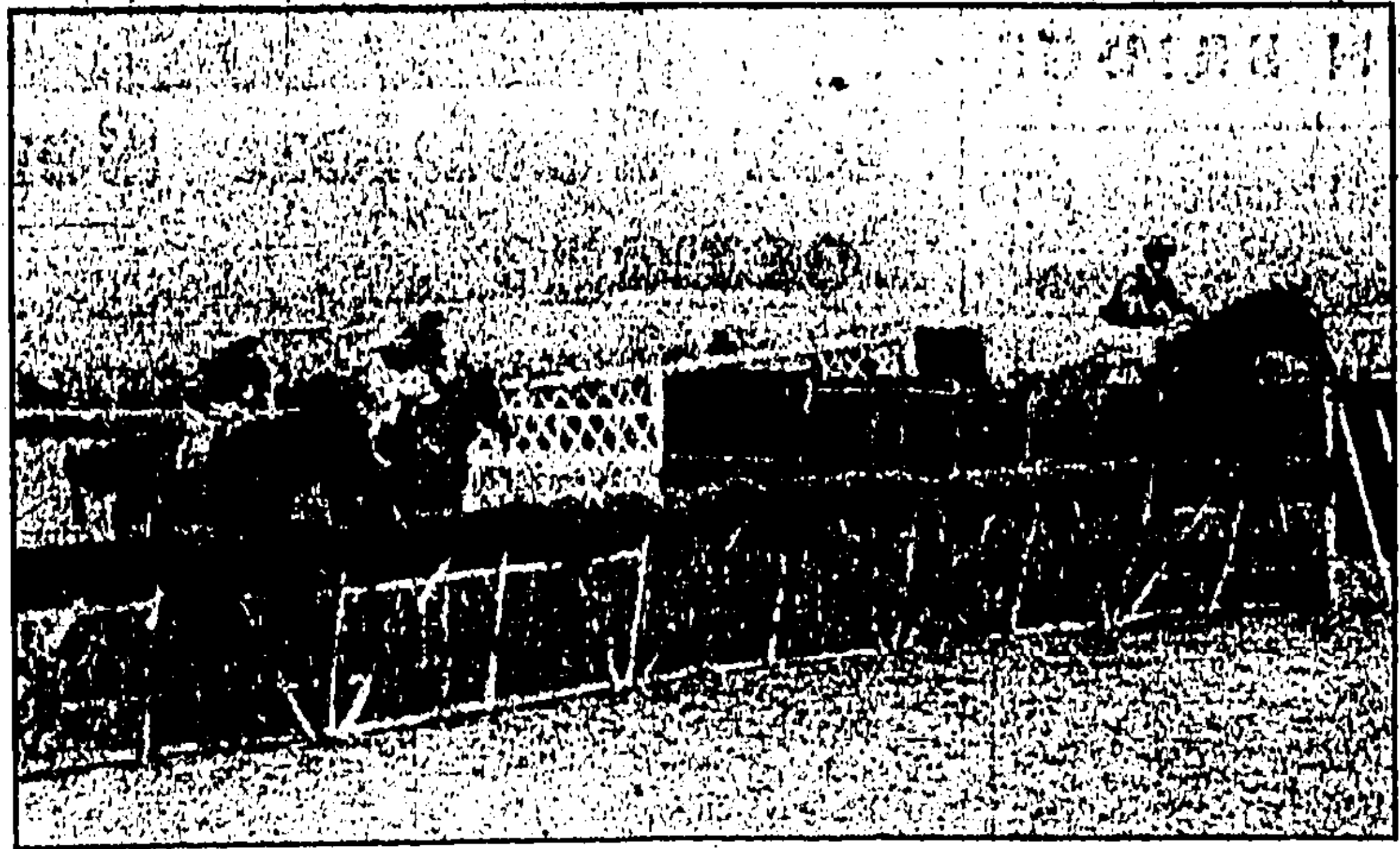
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CHAMPION HURDLE CHALLENGE CUP RACE



Sir Ken, owned by Mr. M. Kingsley and ridden by T. Molony, gained his third consecutive win in the Champion Hurdle Challenge Cup. This picture taken at the last flight shows Impney (M. Pumphrey up) leading from Sir Ken (T. Molony up) and Galatian (P. Tuffe up) partly hidden. Sir Ken under pressure made up ground and won a by length.

THE SPORTS ROUNDABOUT

Next Olympic Soccer Tournament Might Be At Wembley

By W. CAPEL KIRBY & DAVID JACK

The future of team events in the Olympic Games will be decided when the International Olympic Committee meets in Athens in May. Most important team game as far as Britain is concerned is football. It produces most revenue, provides welcome relief from an overdose of track events, and is always a sure bet for a good argument.

The 1956 Games will be held in Australia—a country where Soccer is well down the list of popular sports. Last time the Olympics were staged in a non-Soccer country—Los Angeles, 1932—there was no football tournament.

That could happen in 1960, but a much better idea would be to preserve continuity by staging the Olympic football in Europe. That would eliminate the rumour bound to occur if 20 or so of our best amateurs were taken away from their clubs for two months in the middle of the season.

Would the Football Association back a proposal that the Melbourne Olympic Soccer be played at Wembley? When Bolton Wanderers are staying in London, manager Bill Ridding often watches schoolboy football in preference to window-gazing in the West End. That's how he spotted Dennis Stevens playing for Birmingham Schools against London at White Hart Lane on the morning of the Bolton visit to Stamford Bridge.

Unless we were very much mistaken, that bit of shopping was worth every penny of £20,000 to the Trotters who got an inside-forward certain to wear an England shirt one of these days.

LaStarza Leaves For London Today To Fight Cockell

New York, Mar. 15.

Roland LaStarza completed the New York portion of his training today and will leave by plane tomorrow for London, where he boxes Don Cockell of England on March 30.

LaStarza, who was beaten by Rocky Marciano last September in a title bout, said he was in excellent shape. He will complete his training in London.

"I never have seen Cockell, so I can't say much about him," LaStarza said. "Maybe when we get to London we can find out more about him and his style."

LaStarza will be accompanied by his manager, Jimmy De Angelo, and his trainer, Nick Florio.—United Press.

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CHALLENGING

Preston North End's all-action wing half Tom Docherty has made a great come-back from injury, and he looks like challenging Bobby Evans for a position in Scotland's International XI.

Change to think that Docherty and Evans were club-mates at Celtic and the Scottish club sold Docherty for £3,000 because he wasn't big enough.

Somerset County Cricket Club, determined to get away from the foot of the county championship table, report a "full house" of trialists for net practice. Bristol City inside forward John Atkey, a seam bowler with Frome C.C., is one of them.

Rhyl FC Chairman Tommy Cookson tells us there's a nice house and a nice salary waiting for a player-coach with the Cheshire League club. Rhyl are also looking for a manager.

Our referee to Stan Matthews being the oldest player to appear in a Cup Final brought several protests, all of which claimed John Oakes was 32 when he played for Charlton Athletic against Derby County in 1945-46.

For confirmation or otherwise we contacted The Valley, and were told John Oakes' date of birth was September 24, 1909, that would make him a youngster of 30 for the Derby Final.

Signing of Billy Puntum from Portadown is only one of several transfer moves being made by Newcastle United in Northern Ireland.

Newcastle have also contacted Distillery about inside-forward Brian Moore and Glenioran for wing half Billy Neill.

Moore is interesting Aston Villa, too, but Distillery are in no hurry to part.

ASTOUNDING

W. D. Packwood, a member of Kenton Cricket Club from 1921 to 1940, is looking forward to the new cricket season—at the age of 64. Now living in Dorset, he hopes to add to his 3,000-plus wicket-taking record.

HKFC TEAM

The following will represent Club in their First Division match against Eastern on Thursday at 5 p.m. at Club.

Campbell, Armstrong, Tarpy, MacDonald, Forrow, Falconer, Paton, Mullen, McGregor, Gardner, Plektering, reserves, Plank, Mulden, Jones.

POINT 33

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Cervantes, Don Quixote

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WEST BROMWICH EVEN FAVOURITES TO WIN THE CUP

London, Mar. 15.

West Bromwich Albion, the English First Division leaders, were made even money favourites to win the Football Association Challenge Cup at a callover by bookmakers at the Victoria Club here tonight.

Their semi-final opponents, Port Vale, who lead the Third Division (North) were quoted at 100 to 7.

Other prices were: 7 to 2 Preston North, 10 to 1 Bolton Wanderers, 10 to 1 Sheffield Wednesday, 10 to 1 Leicester City.

West Bromwich Albion, the League leaders and favourites for the Cup, play Port Vale, the shock team of the year, on Aston Villa's ground.

The other semi-final between Leicester City and Preston North End and Sheffield Wednesday at Bolton has been arranged for Manchester City's ground.

Port Vale, who are only the second team from the Third Division to reach the semi-finals, thus meet First Division opponents for the third time in the tournament. They have previously beaten

Blarney Stone Seven-a-Side Tournament

By "PAK LO"

Yesterday evening at the Club ground the final second round games of the Blarney Stone Seven-a-Side tournament were played off. The main interest lay in the Club "A" team and Wayfoong.

Both won their games but the Club did not settle down, and their scores were individual efforts.

Wayfoong on the other hand showed a very marked improvement over Saturday and should have little trouble getting to the fourth round and possibly into the finals.

HMS Dampier 0, REME "Exiles" 21
This was one of the best REME teams seen so far and they had no trouble in winning this game. Dampier was definitely outclassed. This is, therefore, the only REME team now left in the competition and they meet Club "A" in the next round.

REME "Casuals" 3, RAF (Kai Tak) "B" 6
This was a rather scrappy game and each side scored, so that extra time had to be played. Also immediately at the beginning of extra time Britt scored his second try to give the "B" team a win. It is unlikely that this RAF team will overcome Wayfoong in their next game.

Tamar Odds & Sods 0, Club "A" 8
The first try came from Ingles who ran, kicked ahead and gathered near the line and scored. Farquharson converted. A minute or two later Roberts scored, through a good run, finishing off with a neat try. Not very impressive as a team but may improve on Wednesday.

REME "Wasps" 0, Wayfoong 20
A much happier looking team were Wayfoong this time, and they soon showed what they could do. Pettie took the ball upfield in a fine dribble and scored. This was followed by a very nice try by Cole.
In the second half Paton scored three times, once mainly through Craig, whose kicking has greatly improved. The Wasps never looked dangerous against this team.

RASC "A" 3, H.K. Signal Regt. 6
This game was the first of the 3rd round to be played off and brings the Signals into the quarter-finals. It was a very evenly matched game until Kibbison got away through the centre and scored. In the closing minutes another good try settled the matter.

MCC BEATS TRINIDAD BY 7 WICKETS

Port of Spain, Trinidad, Mar. 15.

The MCC today beat Trinidad by seven wickets, scoring the necessary 231 runs for victory for the loss of only three wickets.

Bailey made 90 before being caught by Stanger off Deming, while Compton gave a sparkling display for 90 not out, and W. Watson contributed 32 not out.

The second wicket stand between Bailey and Compton put on 142.

Both batsmen were very restrained at the start of the stand, but later battled freely, making strokes all round the wicket.

Final scores: Trinidad 320 and 232, MCC 331 for 8 declared and 231 for 3.—Reuters.

Farewell To An Old Member

Mr F. E. ("Ted") Lawrence, a life member of the Kowloon Cricket Club and before the war one of the club's leading cricketers, will be presented with a farewell gift at the clubhouse next Saturday evening. Mr Lawrence is leaving Hong Kong shortly on retirement.

In connection with Saturday's event, the club has organised a barbecue, starting at 8.30 p.m. and during the evening the concert party from HMS Newcastle will entertain the company. Members desiring to attend the function should book at the clubhouse without delay.

HOME RUGGER RESULTS

London, Mar. 15.
Rugby Union results today were:
Paignton 3, Neath 23
Pontypool 6, Meirion 0
Llanelli 9, Aberavon 6
Glasgow Academicals 24, Oxford University 3.—Reuters.

GETTING READY



H. M. C. Quick, the President, shows his effort in his face as he pulls with the Oxford crew at Wallingford during training for the 100th race against Cambridge over the traditional course between Putney and Mortlake on April 3. — (Central Press Photo).

GENTLE MOYA WILL STAY IN THE 'NATIONAL'

Says RICHARD BAERLEIN

Royal Tan, Queen's Taste, Clearing and Churchtown were the four Grand National horses suggested for Spring Doubles three weeks ago. But Royal Tan is the only one to have given us any encouragement.

I was taking a chance with Clearing, who had then been out only once this season. Since then, at Worcester and Cheltenham, he has given two disappointing displays and must be dropped.

Queen's Taste was pulled up in the mud at Chatterick, but his trainer has told us to take no notice of that race as a "National" trial, for his horse has never been able to act in the mud. Queen's Taste has doubled in price.

TECHNICAL OFFENCE

Churchtown was disqualified on a technical offence from second place at Birmingham, but has shortened to 20-1.

Royal Tan is the only one to have acquitted himself with credit and his performance at Cheltenham was first class. There is still time for him to start favourite for the Grand National.

In place of Clearing, I would substitute Gentle Moya. The two mares which have won the Grand National since the war, Sheila's Cottage and Nickel Coin, were both nine-year-olds. Gentle Moya is eight years old. Last season her only victory was over three miles at Sedgemoor. This year she has improved out of all knowledge.

LAST CHALLENGE

Last time out over four miles at Newcastle she came with a late challenge to take the lead approaching the last fence and won handsomely.

It was not a high-class field, but they were useful handicappers and proved that Gentle Moya could play the distance. She had been third to Persian Pageant and Queen's Taste over three and a half miles at Haydock and, of all the horses with bottom weight in this year's Grand National, none makes greater appeal than this mare.

It is true that on Haydock running she has no chance with Queen's Taste, who has to give only 3lb. at Liverpool. At Haydock the difference was 11lb.

She is quoted at 40-1 for the "National" and must be one of the best outsiders.

'LINCOLN' SUPPORT

Of the Lincolnshire Handicap horses, Charles Mannering continues to attract fair support. He has not yet been backed for

KCC TEAM

Kowloon Cricket Club will be at home to Indian Recreation Club in a First Division League match on Saturday, commencing at 1.30 p.m.
The KCC team will be: B. C. N. Carnell, H. Chamberlain, D. Coffey, W. M. Davidson, S. V. Gillina, P. Hall, R. C. Jenner, A. T. Lee, R. E. Lee, P. Wood, A. Zimmerman. 12th man: C. M. Gifford. Score: Mrs H. Chamberlain.

THE POST-WALKER CUP GET-TOGETHER MAY END THE GOLF 'WAR'

By DEREK JOHN

British and American golf are separated by the flight-conquered air, the Atlantic, and a tiny fraction of ball diameter. For the "get-together" the first two present no difficulty, but it may be the very deuce getting over that fractional difference that remains the outstanding snag in international legal uniformity.

Officially, however, the attempt to remove it in one way or another has been lined up, and when the U.S. Walker Cup team comes early next year their top legislators will be with them to talk ball business with the R. and A.

At the moment the Americans will have nothing to do with the British ball and have in unfortunately undiplomatic terms outlawed its use (except for internationals).

It looks, if the countries are to achieve complete uniformity of balls, as if Britain will have to come into line with the larger American ball. If not some compromise scrapping the present specifications in both countries will have to be worked out.

THE BACKGROUND

What, briefly, is the background to the problem? Here is the pin-point history: 1921—R. and A. legalised the ball of 1.62025, maximum weight and 1.620, minimum diameter to limit the disturbing length factor. The U.S. were in agreement.

1929—U.S. on their own decided to use a ball that would be "easier and pleasanter" for the average golfer. Only 1.601 (for a year)—Only 1.601 ball in the States was one of 1.5507, and 1.601. 1932—U.S. adopted a ball of 1.62025 (same maximum weight as British) and 1.601, diameter.

1948—Canada officially adopted the last-mentioned U.S. specifications.

INTERMITTENTLY

Meantime investigations have been going on in Britain intermittently into the ball question, but the 1921 specifications still stand.

There has been no change, and when just after the last war a proposal for falling into line with the American-size ball was put up by the members of the R. and A., the majority of whom the general golfing public do not know, decided for a years. Their decision was hailed by many as a victory for the average golfer.

There may well be a different attitude now to some change for a ball that will not punish so much to the handicapped golfer, the power golfers, merchants, the power golfers who can hit it out of sight.

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Island Beat Mainland At Fanling

An interesting golf match was played over 36 holes at Fanling on Sunday between teams representing Royal Hongkong Golf Club members resident on the Island and those residing in Kowloon and the New Territories.

The Island led by seven points victory of twelve and a half at lunch time and this lead points to eight.

The match finished 22½ to 20 Mainland players in the afternoon in favour of the Islanders, in spite of their fine four-ball dividend scores being as follows:

SINGLES	
Island	Mainland
T. F. R. Waters	H. R. de Pinna
P. F. Watson	C. P. Basso
J. L. Kay	E. C. Brown
L. C. Saville	A. V. White
A. Lindsay	A. Elliott
A. D. Duffy	W. Rees
K. M. Almas	B. Hanton
D. Golon	P. Hanton
R. Willoquet	P. A. Laroche
D. L. Anderson	A. H. Petrie
W. N. Gray	R. G. Craig
J. B. Wilson	Dr. A. Shoemaker
Austin Ho	F. C. M. Reeves
Coleman	A. MacDonald
D. Shaw	H. G. Smith
R. D. Bell	L. P. Stokes
R. C. Cole	A. G. Dunnett
R. M. Mui	C. D. Eriek
John Wai	C. H. Liang
R. Pan	J. F. Shoemaker
14½	7½

FOURBALLS	
Island	Mainland
Waters/Watson	Pinna/Basto
Kay/Saville	White/Drown
Duffy/Almas	Rees/Hanton
Golon/Willoquet	Laroch/Simon
Anderson/Gray	Petrie/Craig
Wilson/Ho	Shoemaker/Reeves
Coleman/Shaw	MacDonald/Smith
Mui/Cole	Stokes/Dunnett
John Wai	Eriek/Shoemaker
Lindsay/Blacklock	Kiloff/Robertson
14½	7½

J. Dickson Leach won the week-end Boney pool on the Old Course with a return of one down and J. McCausland was runner-up with three down.

The best Medal scores returned during the week-end were the following: M. S. Robertson 78-11-nett 67; J. W. Green 82-24-nett 68; C. P. Basso 94-24-nett 70; J. Dickson Leach 81-9-nett 72.

LADIES' MATCH ARRANGED

The ladies of the Royal Hongkong Golf Club have invited the ladies of Shek-O to a match at Fanling on Thursday, March 18.

Starting times will be drawn on the day of play and players are asked to arrive at Fanling not later than 10.30 a.m. The rail bus will be running from Kowloon for golfers on that day at the usual ladies' day time, i.e. leaving Kowloon at 9.15 a.m. and returning from Sheung Shui at 5 p.m. Tickets for this service may be obtained from the Hon. Secretary—Ladies' Section, who will be at the platform, Kowloon Railway Station at 9.05 a.m.

Play in this match will be a "Sunningdale" with no handicap allowance.

The draw is as follows: RHKGC players named first: Mrs A. S. Mitchell (Captain) v Mrs C. B. Sinclair (Convenor); Mrs L. H. Robinson v Mrs Dawson-Grove; Mrs K. S. Robinson v Mrs H. J. Armstrong; Mrs C. Hayes v Mrs W. N. Gray; Mrs M. Reeves v Mrs H. H. Cleland; Mrs A. B. Coleman v Mrs J. Gray; Mrs F. G. Harrison v Mrs J. P. Harrington; Mrs J. B. Mackie v Mrs S. Standford; Mrs M. Turnbull v Mrs E. J. Cowell; Mrs R. R. Coombs v Mrs W. P. Blirwhistle; Mrs J. R. Collis v Mrs A. H. Saunders; Mrs M. Vaughan v Mrs F. D. Hunter; Mrs L. Goldman v Mrs S. M. Backe; Mrs C. Riddin v Mrs R. W. Tuplin; Mrs S. S. Gordon v Mrs E. Huttemer; Mrs D. L. Anderson v Mrs J. G. Byington; Mrs M. Hung v Mrs N. K. Latimer; Mrs P. A. Laroche v Mrs H. Barton; Mrs J. F. Shoemaker v Mrs M. L. Neale.

A return match between the Ladies' Section and an RAF team was played at Fanling on Thursday, March 10 and this resulted in another victory for the ladies by 11½ points to 3½. Results of individual games were as follows, R.A.F. players named first:

F/O Brown v P. Robinson 1; W/C McLaughlin v M. Mackie 1; S/L Imrie v P. Coombs 1; F/L Hull v D. Dawson-Grove 1½; F/L Leigh Bennett v C. Robertson 1; F/L Graham v A. Hayes ½; W/C Read v L. Harrison ½; S/L Houghton v M. Reeves ½; A/C Field v D. Mitchell 1½; Maj. Slater v D. Blirwhistle 1; S/L de la Haye v M. Vaughan 1; S/L Cullen ½; D. Armstrong ½; F/L Adams v M. Gray 1; F/L Hutton v B. Anderson 1½.

English And Irish Horses To Run In The Belmont International Steeplechase

New York, Mar. 15.

Four of the top horses in England and Ireland have been entered in the Belmont International Steeplechase at New York on May 8, President S. Bryce Wing of the National Steeplechase and Hunt Association said today, and two other European horses may be entered later.

Mr Stephen Clark, Vice-President of the Association, left Europe today after a tour on which he issued invitations to Europe's best "Chase" runners.

Mr Wing talked to Mr Clark by trans-Atlantic phone to get the list of entries.

Knock Hard, a 10-year-old, and eight-year-old Nico Work are the two from Ireland. Pater Cassel, National Hunt trainer for the Royal Family, is sending



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"SHENGKING"	Keelung	6 p.m. 17th Mar.
"ANKING"	Singapore, Penang & Belawan	10 a.m. 18th Apr.
"YUNNAN"	Tanjong Pagar	6 p.m. 18th Mar.
* Sails from Cantonian Wharf.		
ARRIVALS FROM		
"HUPEI"	Tientsin	19th Mar.
"SIENKING"	Keelung	7 a.m. 22nd Mar.
"PAKHOI"	Shanghai	22nd Mar.

A.O. LINE LTD./C.N. CO. LTD., JOINT SERVICE

SAILINGS TO		
"CHANGSHA"	Rabat, Sydney & Melbourne	5th Apr.
ARRIVALS FROM		
"CHANGSHA"	Kobe	28th Mar.

BLUE FUNNEL LINE

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Sails		
"ATREUS"	Liverpool & Dublin	23rd Mar. 24th Mar.
"BELLEROPHON"	Genoa, London, Rotterdam, Amsterdam & Hamburg	24th Mar. 25th Mar.
"PATROCLES"	Marseilles, Liverpool & Glasgow	5th Apr. 6th Apr.
"ALCINOUS"	Liverpool & Glasgow	13th Apr. 14th Apr.
"ANTIOCHUS"	Liverpool & Dublin	23rd Apr. 24th Apr.

Scheduled sailings from Europe

Sails		
G. "PATROCLES"	Liverpool	10th Mar.
G. "ALCINOUS"	do	18th Mar.
G. "ANTIOCHUS"	do	28th Mar.
G. "CYCLOPS"	do	7th Apr.
G. "PERSEUS"	do	13th Apr.
G. "LAOMEDON"	18th Mar.	22nd Apr.
G. "ANTIOCHUS"	24th Mar.	2nd May
G. "CLATONUS"	3rd Apr.	8th May

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"DONA NATI"	Sails N.Y.	2nd Apr.
"MANGALORE"	do	10th Mar.
"AX"	do	2nd Apr.
"HITAN"	25th Mar.	16th Apr.
"AGAMEMNON"	12th Apr.	3rd June

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HK/Hanoi/Hatphong	(DC-4)	10 a.m. Wednesday
HK/Bangkok/Singapore	(DC-4)	7 a.m. Thursday
HK/Bangkok/Bangkok/Calcutta	(DC-4)	12 noon Friday

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"STAR ARCTURUS"

Arrives	Apr. 3	from Japan.
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NOTICE

ROYAL AIR FORCES

ASSOCIATION

The Annual General Meeting of the Hong Kong Branch will be held in the Air Force Club on Thursday 25th March 1954, at 1730 hours.

All Members of the R.A.F. Association whether registered with the Hong Kong Branch or not are invited to attend.

S. G. SMITH,

Hon. Secretary.

NOTICE

THE HONGKONG & SHANGHAI HOTELS, LIMITED.

Notice to Shareholders

NOTICE is hereby given that the Ordinary Yearly Meeting of the Shareholders of The Hongkong & Shanghai Hotels, Limited, will be held at the Registered Office of the Company (Second Floor, Telephone House, Des Voeux Road Central, Hongkong), on Friday, 19th March, 1954 at 12 Noon, for the purpose of receiving the Report of the Board of Directors together with the Statement of Accounts for the year ended 31st December, 1953, to elect a Director and to appoint Auditors.

The Transfer Books of the Company will be closed from the 6th March, 1954 to the 19th March, 1954, both days inclusive.

By Order of the Board,

A. SOMMERFELT,

Secretary.

Hongkong, 17th Feb., 1954.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES

CIE DES MESSEAGERIES MARITIMES

Consignees per Company's

m/v "LA MARSEILLAISE"

are hereby notified that their cargo is being discharged into the Hongkong & Kowloon Wharf & Godown Co. godowns where it will be at Consignees' risk and conditions of storage, and where delivery may be obtained as soon as the goods are landed.

Damaged packages are to be left in the Godown for examination by Consignees and the Company's surveyors. Messrs. Goddard & Douglas Ltd. on Saturday, 20th March, 1954.

To comply with the General Bonded Warehouse Regulations, Consignees must have a Revenue Officer in attendance when damaged dutiable goods are examined.

No claims will be admitted after the goods have left the steamer's godowns, and all goods remaining undelivered after 25th March, 1954, will be subject to rent.

All claims against the steamer must be presented to the undersigned on or before 14th April, 1954, or they will not be recognized.

No Fire Insurance will be effected.

CIE DES MESSEAGERIES MARITIMES

Hongkong, 16th March, 1954.

NOTICE

THE HONGKONG ELECTRIC COMPANY, LIMITED.

Notice to Shareholders

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Sixty-First Ordinary Yearly Meeting of Shareholders will be held at the Company's Registered Office, 4th Floor, P. & O. Building, on Thursday, the 18th day of March, 1954, at 11 a.m. for the purpose of receiving and considering the Reports of the Directors and of the Auditors and the Profit and Loss Account for the year ended 31st December, 1953, and the Balance Sheet as at that date and for the election of Directors and the appointment of Auditors.

The Register of Transfers of the Company will be closed from Saturday, the 6th day of March, to Thursday, the 18th day of March, 1954, both days inclusive.

By Order of the Board,

GIBB, LIVINGSTON & COMPANY, LIMITED,

Agents.

Hongkong, 22nd Feb., 1954.

To ADVERTISERS

SUNDAY POST-HERALD

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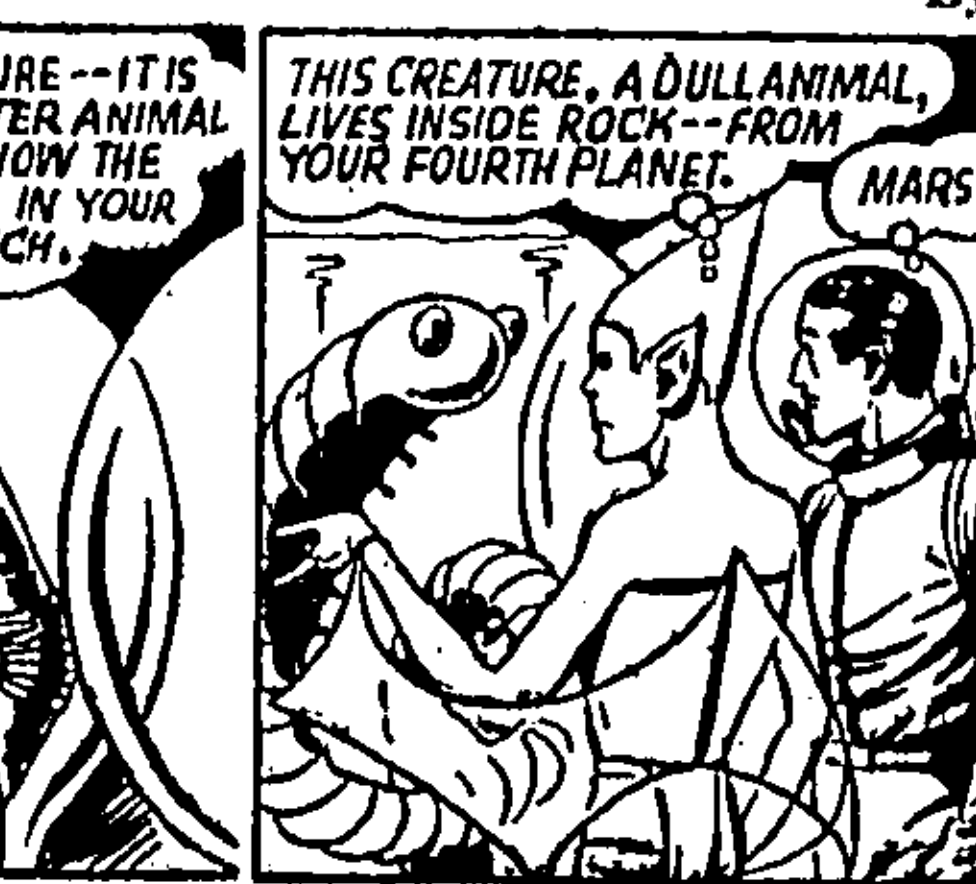
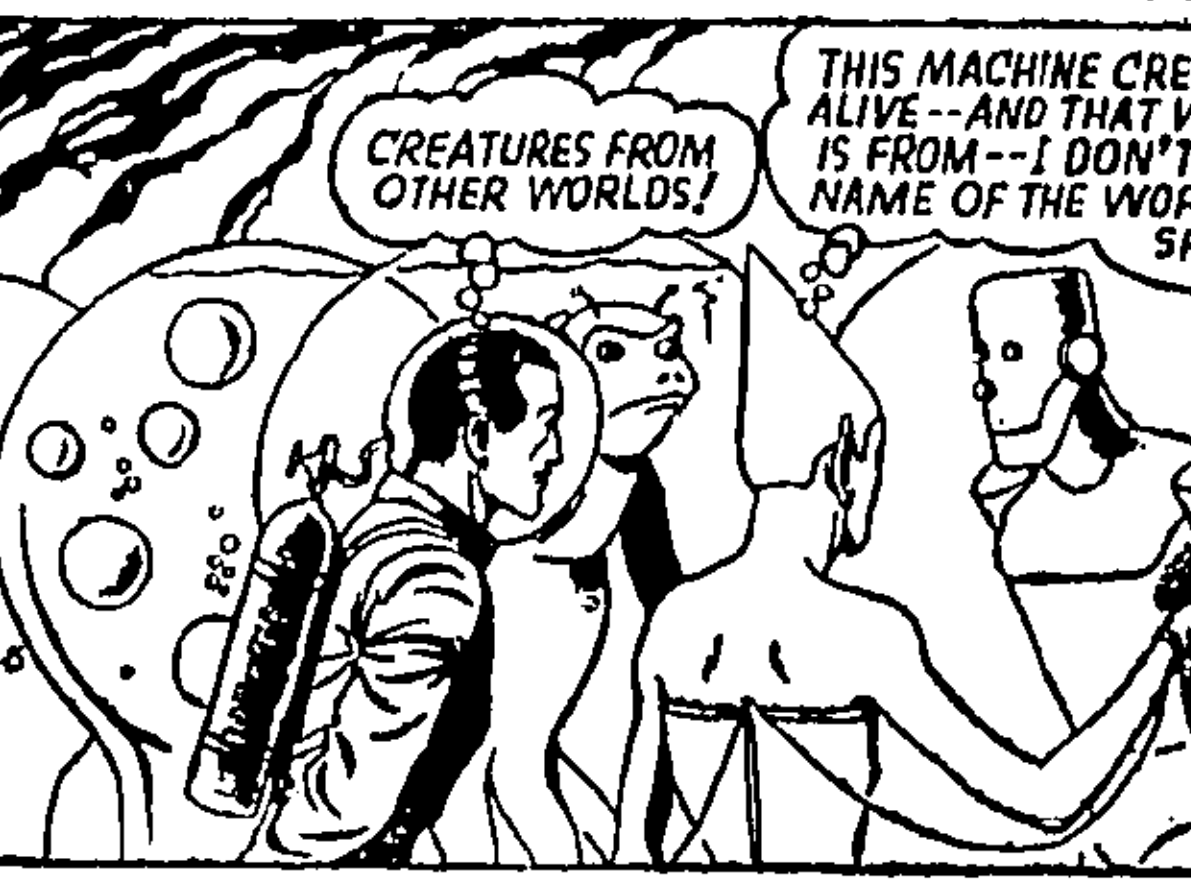
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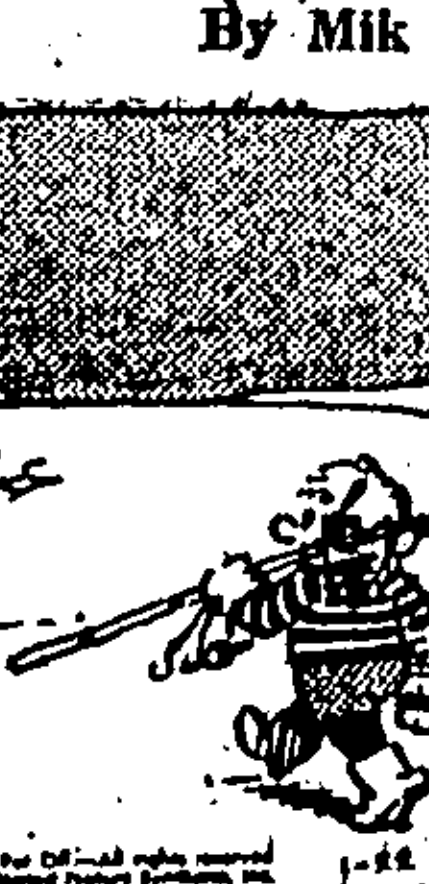
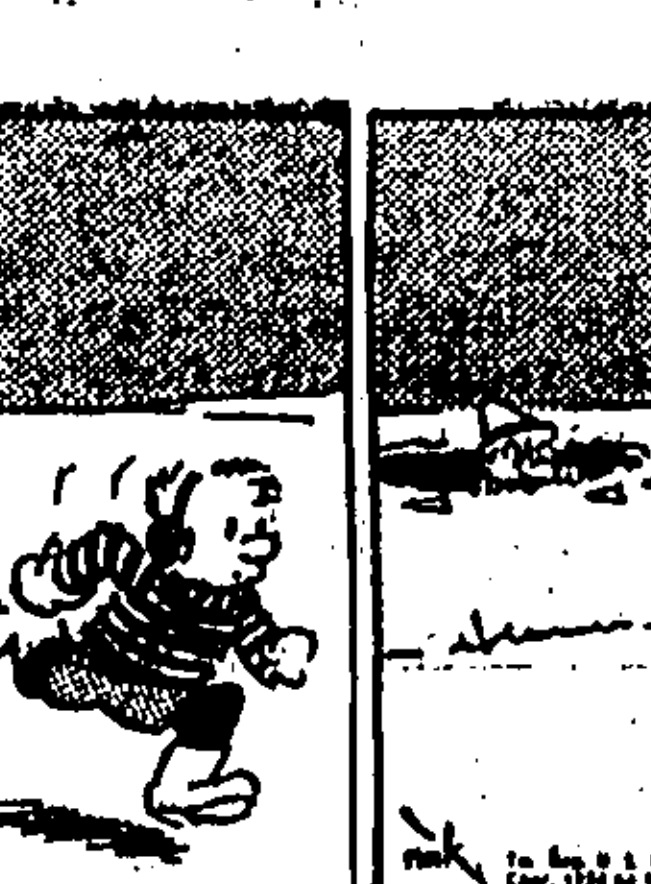
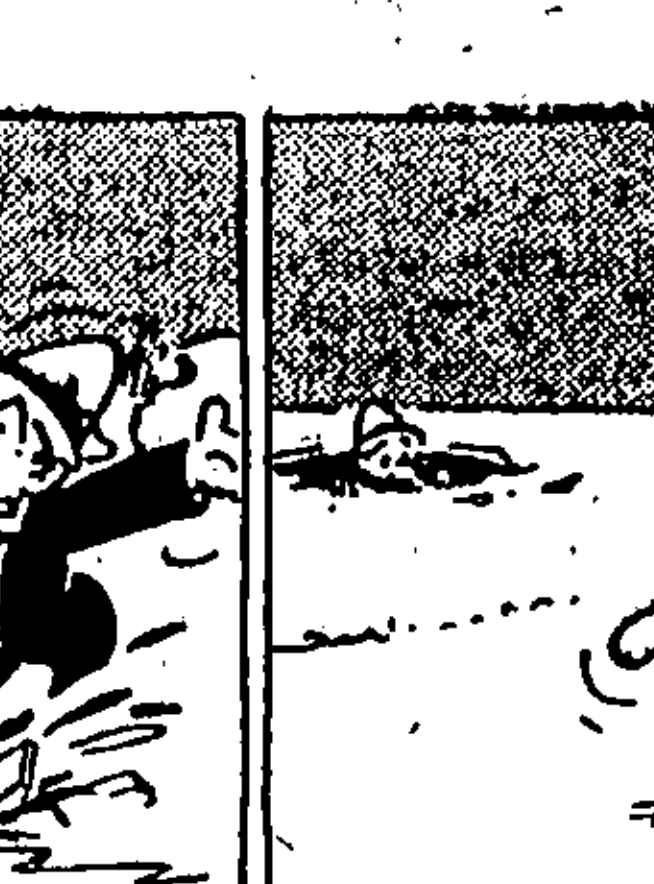
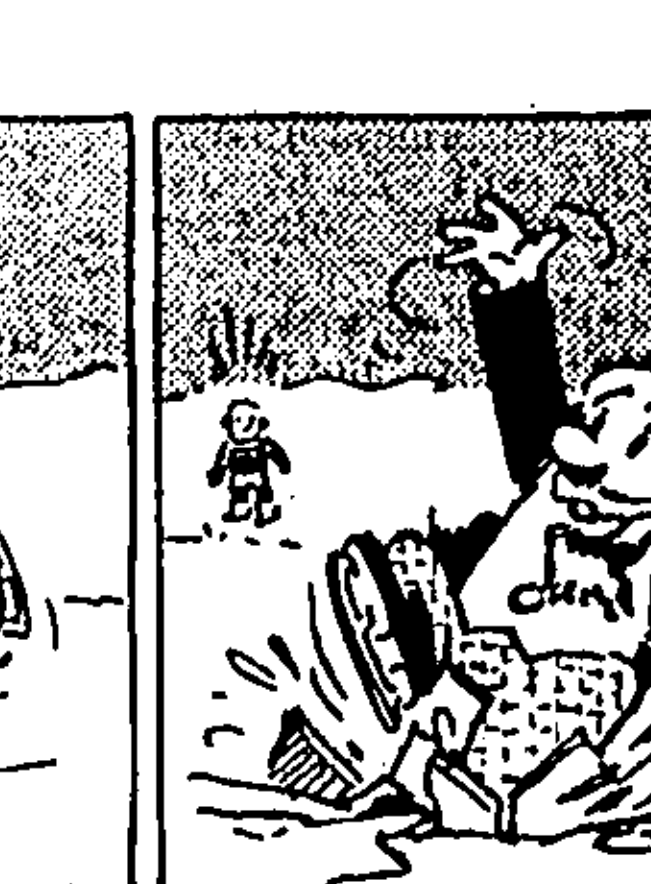
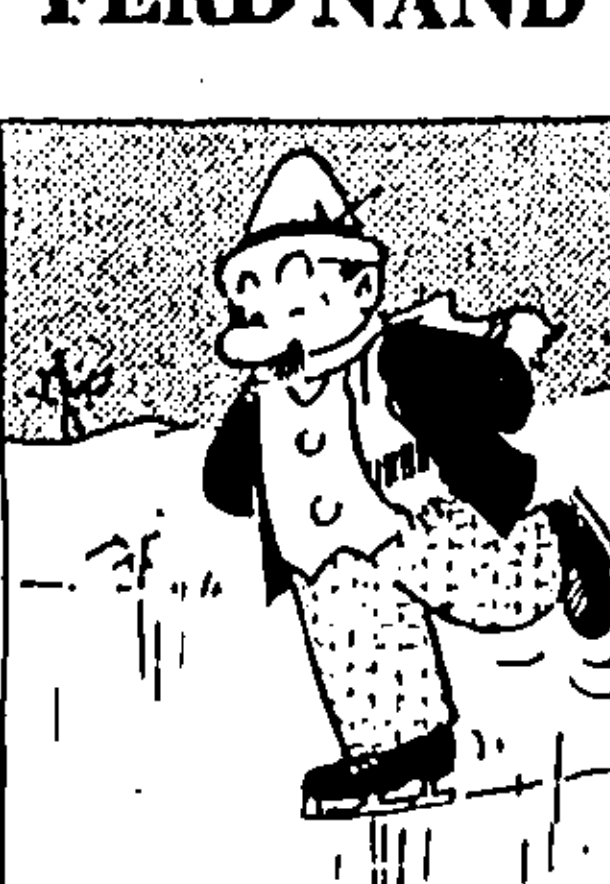
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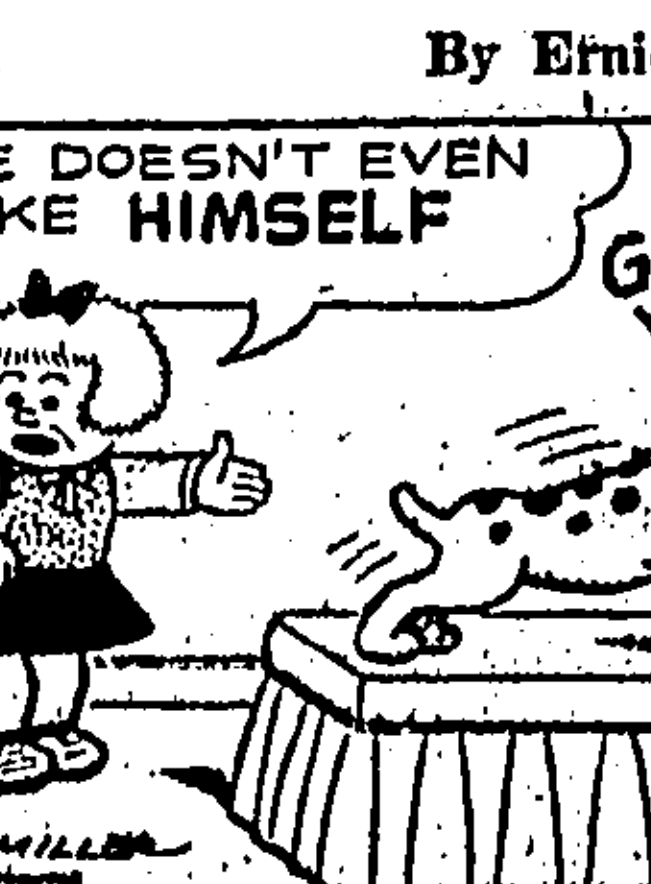
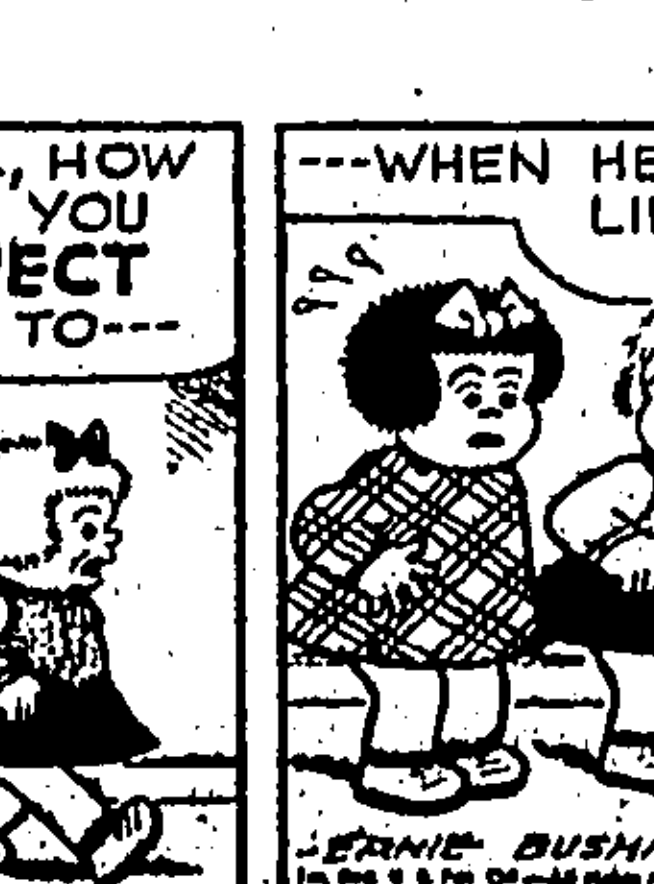
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12th May 12th June		

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"OZARDA"	In Port	for Colombo, Bombay, Karachi, Kuwait, Khorramshahr & Basrah direct. Other Persian Gulf Ports via Bombay
"ORDIA"	due 17th Mar.	for Osaka, Kobe, Nagoya & Yokohama
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"ORNA"	due 2nd Apr.	from Persian Gulf
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EASTERN & AUSTRALIAN S.S. CO., LTD.

"EASTERN"	due 23rd Mar.	from Japan
	sails 24th Mar.	for Kobe, Osaka, Nagoya, Yokohama, Sydney, Melbourne, & Adelaide
"NELLORE"	due 27th Mar.	from Australia
	sails 28th Mar.	for Japan
"NELLORE"	due 10th Apr.	from Japan
	sails 20th Apr.	for Auckland, Wellington, Sydney & Melbourne

All vessels have liberty to call at any ports on or off the route & the route & sailing are subject to change or amendment with or without notice.

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TUESDAY, MARCH 16

By Air

Indo-China, France, 6 p.m.

By Surface

Macao, 6 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 17

Canada, 6 a.m.

Indo-China, 8 a.m.

Formosa, Japan, U.S.A., & Canada, 1 p.m.

Japan, 6 p.m.

Formosa, 6 p.m.

Thailand, Malaya, Indonesia, Australia, New Zealand, 6 p.m.

By Surface

China, Formosa, Republic, 8.30 a.m.

Japan, Noon.

Formosa, 1 p.m.

Korea, 2 p.m.

Indo-China, 2 p.m.

Macao, 2 p.m.

THURSDAY, MARCH 18

By Air

India, Ceylon, 6 a.m.

Thailand, Burma, India, Pakistan, Burma East, Africa, Great Britain & Europe, 10 a.m.

Japan, Noon.

Philippines, Guam, Hawaii, U.S.A. &

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SANITARY EQUIPMENT.
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JOHN CLARKE'S CASEBOOK

10th Time Lucky

RICHARD is a big, blustering man who regards the world through eyes screwed up in a kind of permanent wink, addresses the world in a hoarse, croaking voice, and stalks through it with a rolling swagger.

The world, says Richard, is a swagging, croaking, croaking world, and he, Richard, is the only one who knows it.

The world, it must be said, seems to have twiggled the idea very well, generously helping out in maintaining Richard's family (he has seven children, four of school age) at such times as he has felt disinclined to work.

Sometimes, indeed, when Richard has been in prison, the world has taken over his responsibilities entirely. The world seemed to be in the sort of peril again the other day.

INTENDED TO PAY

RICHARD marched into the dock at the Old Street court and, leaning his elbow on the rail, as though it had been a trolley bar, pleaded guilty to the charge of embezzling £1,158, 11d.

A policeman went into the witness-box to tell Mr. H. F. Sturge, the magistrate, the details. "This man, sir," he said, "was employed on casual work as a lorry-driver. He had to take goods to various of the firm's customers and on this day one of them paid him £1,158, 11d. for the goods delivered."

The prisoner never handed over the money. At the end of the week, he took his £8 wages, and on the following Monday said his daughter was ill, and instead of returning to work, went to the Labour Exchange, and drew £4 there.

"He was seen by a police-officer yesterday and said he had intended to pay the £1,158, 11d. back."

NINE PREVIOUS

THE magistrate asked the policeman, "Is he known?" "Yes, sir, there are nine previous convictions," the officer said—and began to list the most recent, which included sentences for theft, false pretences and receiving.

"Just tell me the other punishments he has received," said the magistrate.

The policeman did so, and from what he said, one fact emerged. Richard had always been—no doubt, he had deserved—a fairly sharply punished for his wrong-doing.

"This man does no regular work," the policeman added. "Only these casual jobs as a driver. His usual income is £4 a week, which he gets from the Labour Exchange and the National Assistance Board."

HIS USUAL INCOME

MR STURGE asked Richard what he had to say.

"It's like this, sir," Richard began, confidentially. "My boy came home on leave from the Army and my wife asked me for some money to give him. I told her to get it out of my overcoat pocket, which she did, but she went to the wrong pocket, where this £1,158, 11d. was. There was six bob in the other pocket. That's what I meant her to take."

His voice became even more confidential. "Look, sir, give me a chance, will you? The wife's going for another operation, and there's the children to think of, sir."

"If anyone ever seemed to ask to be sent to Sessions for sentence, it is you," said Mr. Sturge with a sigh. "I shall have to think about this. I'll see you this afternoon."

NOW—AN ASSET?

WHEN Richard was brought back, the magistrate put him on probation for two years. Somehow, as Richard left, his swagging seemed to have moderated, as if he had been a little humbled by being given this chance.

Perhaps the chance would do for him what none of the punishments had, and turn him into a self-supporting family man, a real and not an imaginary asset to the world about him.

Swami Ajarananda, who is en route to Japan to attend a world religious conference early next month, will deliver a lecture in English at the Hindu Temple at 7 p.m. today. He will speak of Hinduism and on what Hindus should do.

Measures To Abate Kowloon

Smoke Nuisance GREEN ISLAND CEMENT SPENDING \$1,500,000

Referring to the "smoke nuisance" at the annual general meeting of the Green Island Cement Co., Ltd., this morning, Mr. H. R. Cleland, the chairman, said that in order to abate the nuisance as far as possible the Company was spending \$500,000 on a Rotary Slurry Filter in addition to \$700,000 on Electrostatic Precipitators.

"By the time we have finished we will have spent nearly \$1,500,000 on measures to abate the smoke nuisance and we hope that this will finally give full satisfaction to the community."

It was disclosed at the meeting, which was held in Telephone House, that the profit for the year ending December 31, 1952, was \$1,379,142, and the following appropriations were made: a dividend of \$2 per share, free of tax, absorbing \$1,200,000; transfers to general reserve \$250,000; bonus to staff \$47,461; carry forward \$236,347.

The Chairman's statement was presented to the meeting in printed form. It read:

It is with deep regret that I have to record the death since our last Meeting of Mr. Li Tse-long. Mr. Li Tse-long had been a Director of our Company for 20 years and during all this time his ability and wide experience were of inestimable benefit to our Board. I would like to take this opportunity of expressing our high appreciation of his services and of offering our deep sympathy to his Widow and his Family.

We sustained a further loss in the summer in the death of Mr. Fung Ki-cheuk, who had been our Comptroller since before the War. To his Family, too, I would like to extend our condolences in their sad loss.

The falling trend in cement prices which I noted last year continued, except for a short period in the summer, throughout the greater part of the year under review and it was only in the closing months that a measure of stability at lower prices appeared to have been achieved. Falling raw material prices, freight rates and low costs have gone some way to offsetting lower selling prices, but overall it has been a year of contracting profit margins. Fortunately, so far there has been no sign of a reduction in demand. The total cement consumption in Hongkong has only been slightly less than last year and we have maintained our share of the business, while our exports were some 20% greater.

IMPROVED POSITION

In the result our net profit for the year has risen to \$1,379,142, but concurrently, due both to the reduced cost of the stocks we have to carry and to the further delay in the arrival of capital items, the cash position has much improved.

Capital Expenditure, including that to which I will be referring in a few moments, amounts to some \$1,500,000 in the next two years, but with precipitators in operation we expect to make a further reduction in both the value and volume of our manufactured stocks which will provide us with most of the money we need this year.

Your Directors, therefore, feel that an Appropriation to General Reserve, drawn partly from this year's profits and partly from the carry forward of \$250,000 will be quite adequate and after paying a well deserved bonus to the Staff they are pleased to recommend the maintenance of the Dividend rate at \$2.00 per share free of Tax.

"SMOKE NUISANCE"

I will now say a few words about what is commonly called our "smoke nuisance". Many of you will have read the correspondence upon this subject recently exchanged with the Chairman of the Urban Council and published in the Press at the beginning of February, but I think it will be of interest to all shareholders if I repeat something of what we then said and add a few further remarks. Strictly speaking, we do not produce smoke at all in the sense of the unconverted products of combustion, as a cement rotary kiln is one of the most efficient ways of burning yet devised. What is seen coming from our stacks is principally steam from the large volume of water

we use in our process, together with fine dust particles, which are not dangerous to health. There is also sometimes an unpleasant smell. As you know, we are spending about \$700,000 on the installation of Electrostatic Precipitators and they are designed to take out virtually all the dust and smell and should, as a consequence, substantially lessen the plume of steam from our factory. However, there will still be visible steam varying in amount with the humidity, which is particularly high at certain seasons of the year in the climatic conditions of Hongkong. This steam will not be a nuisance to the Public in general, but we are very conscious of our responsibilities towards all those who use the airfield at Kai Tak and we have been working on means whereby we can reduce the amount of steam emission yet further below what we hope to achieve with our Precipitators. Electrostatic Precipitators, it has been estimated, will save the expenditure of a further \$500,000 on a Rotary Slurry Filter, which is expected to reduce the water content of slurry fed into the kiln by over 60%, with a consequent reduction of the same percentage in our steam emission. This plan should be in operation by the end of next year. By the time we have finished we will have spent nearly \$1,500,000 on measures to abate the smoke nuisance and we hope that this will finally give full satisfaction to the community.

The current year has opened well and as there is still a great deal of building and construction work on hand and in prospect we hope we will continue to find a responsive market for our products both here and overseas.

The Report and Statement of Accounts were adopted unanimously on the proposition of the Chairman, seconded by Mr. E. S. K. Ho-tung.

RE-ELECTED

Mr. W. A. Stewart and Mr. H. R. Cleland, who were due to retire by rotation, were re-elected Directors of the Company on the proposition of Mr. E. H. P. White, seconded by Mr. E. H. P. White.

The business of the day concluded with the re-appointment of Messrs Lowe Bingham and Matthews as Auditors to the Company for the ensuing year at the fee of \$4,000. The re-appointment was proposed by Mr. Le Yuk-long and seconded by Mr. Fung Kwok-sun.

Mr. H. R. Cleland, President, and other Directors present were: Messrs W. A. Stewart, H. R. Cleland, R. P. Moodie and D. Benson, OBE.

BIG TOLL OF TERRORISTS

Nairobi, Mar. 15. Security forces killed 145 Mau Mau terrorists in the past week—the biggest toll of any week since the Emergency began 18 months ago. It was announced here today.

In addition 10 wounded terrorists were captured and 102 suspects detained.

In the same period, 14 African members of the security forces were killed and seven wounded. One European was also wounded.

No More Pay Concessions

(Continued from Page 1)

ministration. This has been proved by the large tax cuts we have already made possible this year.

"But economic conditions do not call for an emergency programme that would justify larger Federal deficits and further inflation through large additional tax reductions at this time."

The President did not refer to a Bill passed by the House of Representatives to cut excise (sales) taxes on luxury goods and services by \$912,000,000. It had been thought that he would appeal to the Senate, which is to consider the Bill to eliminate or greatly reduce the proposed cuts.

The President said that while he was insisting upon good management and thrift in Government, he was at the same time asking Congress to approve "a great programme to build a stronger America for all our people."

Without adequate revenue, most of his goals would be abandoned or curtailed and that was why his tax proposals were the cornerstone of his whole effort, he added.

He described his programme as follows:

"We want to improve and expand our social security programme."

"We want a broader and stronger system of unemployment insurance."

"We want more and better homes for our people."

"We want to do away with slums in our cities."

"We want to foster a much improved health programme."

"We want a better and lasting farm programme with better reclamation and conservation."

"We want an improved Taft-Hartley Act to protect workers and employers."

"We want wider markets overseas for our products."

"We want—above all—maximum protection of freedom and a strong and growing economy free from both inflation and depression."—Reuter.

Radio Hongkong

H.K.T. Signal and Programme Summary: 6.05, Melody with the Stars; 6.30, BBC Bandstand; 7.00, Fenton's Works Band; 7.10, Stanley H. Doddington (BBC); 7.15, Weather Report; 7.20, Time Signal and World News (London Relay); 7.30, Election Talk; 7.35, Candidates for the Urban Council; 7.40, News (Recorded); 7.45, Personal Portrait—The Prime Minister of Canada—Mr. Louis St. Laurent; 7.50, News (Recorded); 7.55, Demi-Hour Francophone (Studio); 8.00, First Hearing presented by the BBC; 8.05, The World's Weekly; 8.10, A Portrait of John Wesley; 8.15, News (Recorded); 8.20, The Ballad; 8.25, London Studio Concert; 8.30, News (Recorded); 8.35, The World's Weekly; 8.40, News (Recorded); 8.45, The World's Weekly; 8.50, News (Recorded); 8.55, The World's Weekly; 9.00, News (Recorded); 9.05, The World's Weekly; 9.10, News (Recorded); 9.15, The World's Weekly; 9.20, News (Recorded); 9.25, The World's Weekly; 9.30, News (Recorded); 9.35, The World's Weekly; 9.40, News (Recorded); 9.45, The World's Weekly; 9.50, News (Recorded); 9.55, The World's Weekly; 10.00, News (Recorded); 10.05, The World's Weekly; 10.10, News (Recorded); 10.15, The World's Weekly; 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